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Colonies GENERAL

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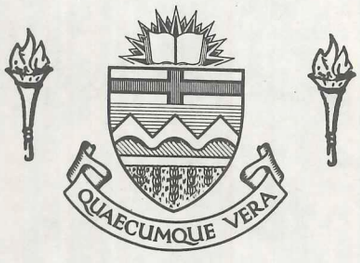
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COLONIES ANNUAL REPORTS

Colonies

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British Parliamentary Papers

ANNUAL REPORTS ON THE STATE OF THE COLONIES

1892

Colonies General

30



SHANNON · IRELAND

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ACCOUNTS AND PAPERS:

FIFTY VOLUMES.

—*(8.)*—

COLONIES AND BRITISH POSSESSIONS;
COLONIAL REPORTS.

SESSION 1.—9 *February* 1892——28 *June* 1892.

SESSION 2.—4 *August* 1892——18 *August* 1892.

VOL. LV.

1892.

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ACCOUNTS AND PAPERS:

1892.

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EIGHTH VOLUME.

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No. 44.

BAHAMAS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1891.

(For Report for 1890, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 11.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
June 1892.



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1892.

[C.—6563.–28.]

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2	Zululand	Forests.

No. 44.

BAHAMAS.

[For Report for 1890, *see* Colonial Report [Annual], No. 11.]

Sir AMBROSE SHEA to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, Nassau, N.P.,
April 25, 1892.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship the Blue Book for 1891.

The imports and exports show a decline on those of the previous year. The lessened value of imports was caused by the entry of a large amount of damaged goods from the wreck of the American steamer "El Dorado," in August last, which were sold at from one-fourth to one-third of their cost.

The decline in exports was in fruit and sponges, neither having realised the amount of the year 1890. These facts, indicating the precarious nature of the normal industries, testify to the great and necessary security that will be given to the well-being of the people by the fibre enterprise, now on the threshold of its productive stage. The Colony will not be free from the risk of disappointment, in its annual productions, until the new staple pursuit becomes a distinct feature in the industrial economy. Fortunately this issue is now fast approaching and the lessening dependence of the Colony on its fruit and sponge interests will soon relieve it from the cause of the old sense of insecurity and misgiving.

Revenue.

2. The revenue for the year was 52,813*l.* This is really 200*l.* more than that of the former year, which was unduly increased by a balance brought from 1890 for the purpose of adjusting the account. The revenue, however, was 2,000*l.* below the estimated amount, owing to the loss on the large import of damaged goods above referred to.

Crown Lands.

3. The revenue from Crown lands for 1891 was 1,590*l.*, being 870*l.* less than in 1890. The sales were considerably below those

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of the previous year. No part of the principal of the large allotments has been paid, the amount of which is nearly 20,000*l.* and upon which an annual rent is being received. The amount held by the Crown Agents at interest is 2,394*l.*, and by the Receiver General 1,500*l.*, which sums, amounting to 3,894*l.*, are held applicable to the out-island steam service by authority of the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Salt Pond Account.

4. This fund is gradually decreasing, the amount being 1,444*l.* on the 31st of December 1891, as against 1,522*l.* at the end of the former year. The trade has almost ceased to exist nor does there seem to be any chance of its revival while the protective duties on salt in the United States continue.

Widows' and Orphans' Fund.

5. This fund was in debt to the Colony, on the 31st of December, 5,517*l.* The receipts were 316*l.* and the payments 2,523*l.*, showing a loss on the year of 2,207*l.*, which will be an increasing charge on the revenue. It is most unfortunate that the Act was repealed, leaving such a burthen of obligations. If the law was inaccurately framed, as is alleged, an amendment, and not a repeal, would have been the course to adopt. Though it will not relieve the present situation, another Widows' and Orphans' Act is contemplated, and will no doubt be dealt with when the fuller information is obtained which is now being sought for.

Post Office Savings Bank.

6. The amount of investments on this account in the hands of the Crown Agents is 6,628*l.* 9*s.* 11*d.*, for which 6,652*l.* 2*s.* 2*d.* was paid. The whole sum at the credit of the account is 6,696*l.* 7*s.* 5*d.*, of which 44*l.* 5*s.* 3*d.* is in the Bank of Nassau. The amount due to depositors is 7,255*l.* 9*s.* 6*d.*, being an excess of liabilities over assets of 559*l.* 2*s.* 1*d.*, which deficiency is a part of the defalcation of the late Postmaster Clare. The excess of liabilities is, however, being gradually lessened, having been reduced since December, 1889, by the sum of 166*l.* As the institution is now being worked the adverse balance will be liquidated within the next three years. Under the amended Act of 1888 the Bank is restored to the legitimate position of a self-sustaining institution. Its operations, however, are materially affected by the facilities afforded by the Joint Stock Bank of Nassau.

Joint Stock Bank of Nassau.

7. This bank is being worked with great success and signal advantage to the Colony. The net profits of the year were equal

to 27 per cent., of which 10 per cent. was divided and 17 per cent. carried to the reserve.

Public Debt.

8. The funded debt has been reduced by the sinking fund to the extent of 300*l.* and now stands at 81,126*l.*, there being 33,000*l.* invested in England at 4½ per cent., and 48,126*l.* in the Colony at 4 per cent.

Legislation.

9. There were 23 Acts passed during the two Sessions of 1891. The most prominent are the Act for the Creation of a new Constabulary Force, to replace the detachment of the West India Regiment that has since been withdrawn, and the Act for the Establishment of Telegraph Cable Communication with Florida. This latter was repealed in the special Session held in October, and a new Act passed, under which the Government assume the work on their own account, and an authority was given to raise 30,000*l.* on loan, for the purchase of the cable, which has since been laid and is now being successfully worked.

Population.

10. The census taken in April 1891 fixed the population at 47,565, this being an increase of 4,044 on the census of 1881. There were, during the year, 1,900 births, and 1,052 deaths, the latter showing a rate of 22·1.

Education.

11. There are 38 Government schools, in which the number of pupils on the rolls is 5,153, and the average attendance is 3,121 The amount expended was 2,815*l.* 16*s.* 4*d.*, no fees being paid. There are also 10 aided schools, with 857 pupils on the rolls and an average attendance of 461 : the contribution of the Government to these schools was 139*l.* 5*s.* The Church of England have 34 schools unassisted, with a roll of 1,500 pupils ; and there are 33 private schools with a roll of 1,254 pupils.

Agriculture.

12. There was a decline in the value of the pine-apple crop compared with 1890. In the latter year, the export was 49,795*l.*, and 45,966*l.* in 1891. In canned pine-apples, there was also a falling off from 6,126*l.* in 1890, to 3,793*l.* in 1891. Oranges, also, show a decline, from 3,961*l.* in 1890, to 2,253*l.* in the past year.

Sponge Fishery.

13. In this branch of industry a decline is shown from 63,090*l.* in 1890, to 49,696*l.* in 1891.

Salt.

14. Here also the export was less than in 1890, when 2,479*l.* was the value, as against 1,705*l.* in 1891.

Fibre Cultivation.

15. Fibre cultivation makes very satisfactory progress, and there are now about 8,000 acres planted out. At least 6,000 acres will be added to this area in 1892. A larger addition would be made but that the supply of plants of the requisite growth is yet limited. It is now ascertained that it is not advisable to transplant from the nurseries until they are at least one year old, and have attained to a length of 12 or 15 inches. The nurseries, however, are in full operation, and I believe that after the present year the supply of plants will be equal to any supposable demand. The adoption of the limit which restricts Crown allotments for 10 years to 100,000 acres, assures present investors against risk of over-production in the near future at least. The export from early plantings has now begun, and will be about 150 to 200 tons in 1892, and this will thereafter be an increasing quantity, but a careful estimate shows that it will not reach beyond 14,000 to 15,000 tons up to the year 1900. The subsequent advance will be much more rapid, but in no reasonable view of the circumstances can the export from the Colony have a marked effect on the market for many years to come. It is now ascertained that, with plants of fair growth, 4 years is the longest time for the maturing of the plant, and it then yields an annual crop, without further care, for 12 or 14 years. I do not approve of forcing the crop, and immature cuttings are to be specially deprecated. The fibre is at its best after due time has been given for its growth, and unwise methods will be carefully dealt with by the Government in the highest interests of the Colony. There is much yet to be learned in connexion with this enterprise, but it is satisfactory to know that, with our present imperfect knowledge, no serious mistakes have been fallen into. Experience will no doubt lead to a lessened expense of cultivation, especially in the matter of weeding that has hitherto been a large item, but in which it now appears a reduction may be made. The highly important question of labour is well guarded, and the whole quantity of one hundred thousand acres may be brought into cultivation without strain on our present resources. The plant, being confessedly the best of any known growth, a demand from abroad has set in, and, though there are well considered doubts of its successful growth in some places where an attempt to cultivate

the plant is being made, there seems no reason why any amount of competitive industry should be encouraged, and for this and other reasons the Act passed three years ago, to prohibit the export of plants, has now been extended for five years more. The available supply at present is not more than is required for the operations in the Colony, which would be hampered by outside demand, and the progress of the Colony be consequently retarded. It would be difficult to assign a limit to the future advance of the Colony from the growth of this remarkable industry. Though the land provisionally assigned to fibre cultivation (one hundred thousand acres) will in time yield 50,000 tons there seems no reason why even this great result should bar the extension of the area of production, if the markets of the time shall admit of its profitable disposal. It is generally thought that, from the excellence of the fibre, it will find its way into other fields for its use besides rope-making, and recent experiments prove that it takes a dye readily, indicating its adaptability to certain fabrics, and to some extension of demand on this account. There is the further ground for the probably strong place for Bahamas hemp in the future, that it can be produced more cheaply than any known fibre of equal value, and it may be inferred that it will hold its own at least against the influence of any probable competition with which it may have to contend.

Fruit Cultivation.

16. The Colony offers great inducements for fruit-growing. Pine-apples are at present the principal crop, but the particular description of land required for their culture is a limited quantity. Of late years the growth has been much improved by the use of fertilizers, with a considerable increase of quantity. The crop yields large profits. At twopence each an acre of pine-apples returns 40*l.* to 45*l.*, and, though precarious, from its perishable nature, while such results are possible it will continue to be an attractive pursuit. I do not desire to see it extended, as the sole means of the cultivators, beyond its present limits, for the increasing competition of Cuba and Jamaica is a further element of insecurity in the future of this industry. In oranges a good business might be done, if the accounts of Florida enterprise in this fruit are a fair criterion. At present the oranges of this country are roughly handled, being generally shipped in bulk in vessels' holds, and often without compartments. The fruit is equal to any in the world, and when, for the most part, it receives no attention, the result of careful cultivation could not fail to be remunerative. The facilities for production are fully up to those in Florida, and we are entirely free from all risk of frost, which so often blights the Florida crop. The success of the industry in this Colony would be partial, however, until the proper system of packing were adopted to ensure delivery at market in good con-

dition—with this point secured, and the advantage of steam communication, which is fast becoming available, orange-growing should be a profitable source of employment. Tomatoes are grown to a moderate extent, but the production might be largely increased, and when more intelligent enterprise from abroad, of which the prospect is now encouraging, is brought to bear on the various opportunities for steady money-making in the Colony, its history will become distinguished for more than the transformation its famous fibre is effecting. It is to be regretted that of the many young Englishmen who embarked in orange-growing in Florida, with chequered results, and of those also who sought their fortunes in South America, some at least had not found their way to this Colony, where energy and thrift, applied to the varied resources, can hardly fail to reward well-directed effort, and where personal rights and property are under the protection of British Laws and Administration—a consideration to which the history of the southern republics during the past two or three years has given striking significance.

Shipping Returns.

17. The following tables present an abstract of the shipping returns for 1891:—

Sailing Ships Entered (British).

	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crews.
With cargoes - - -	171	11,471	1,196
In ballast - - -	32	2,461	196
Total - -	203	13,932	1,392

Sailing Ships Entered (Foreign).

	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crews.
With cargoes - - -	85	6,047	449
In ballast - - -	82	7,948	467
Total - - -	167	13,995	916

Sailing Ships Cleared (British).

	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crews.
With cargoes - - -	137	10,036	897
In ballast - - -	59	2,779	369
Total - -	196	12,815	1,266

Sailing Ships Cleared (Foreign).

	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crews.
With cargoes - -	143	11,620	855
In ballast - - -	17	1,262	93
Total - -	160	12,882	948

Steam Ships Entered (British).

	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crews.
With cargoes - - -	15	16,918	384
In ballast - - -	—	—	—
Total - -	15	16,918	384

Steam Ships Entered (Foreign).

	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crews.
With cargoes - - -	87	109,743	3,889
In ballast - - -	4	660	57
Total - -	91	110,403	3,946

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Steam Ships Cleared (British).

	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crews.
With cargoes - - -	13	15,653	362
In ballast - - -	1	1,053	22
Total - -	14	16,706	384

Steam Ships Cleared (Foreign).

	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crews.
With cargoes - - -	83	105,236	3,702
In ballast - - -	3	234	27
Total - -	86	105,470	3,729

These returns, compared with those of 1890, show a decrease in sailing tonnage of 11,751 tons, and an increase in steam tonnage of 43,998 tons. This is the natural result of the additional steam service between New York and this port, which came into operation during the past year.

Criminal Statistics.

18. There were during the past year 2,367 persons brought before the magistrates' courts, of whom 274 were discharged for want of prosecution or want of evidence, 733 were cases dismissed on their merits, 13,033 were summarily convicted, 25 were committed for trial in the superior court, where judgment for the Crown was given in 20 cases.

Prison.

19. The total number of persons committed to prison in 1891 was 264, being 141 men, 93 women, and 30 juveniles. Of these, 64, 68, and 13 respectively had been previously convicted. The average daily number of prisoners was 42·73, as against 52·77 in the previous year.

Hospital and Insane Asylum.

20.—(*a.*) The daily average of patients in hospital for 1891 was 78. There were 84 patients remaining at the end of 1890, and

225 patients were admitted during the year. 92 patients were discharged as cured, 49 as relieved, and 14 not relieved. There were 75 deaths.

(*b.*) The building of the new hospital has not been proceeded with pending the decision of the War Office authorities as to the disposal of the military hospital.

(*c.*) There were 15 lunatics admitted into the asylum in 1891; seven were discharged cured, two relieved, and one not improved; five deaths occurred. The average daily number in the asylum was 26, or 16 males and 10 females.

Meteorological Observations.

21. The rainfall for the year was 53·25 inches. Easterly winds prevailed for 88½ days. The mean air temperature at 9 o'clock a.m. and 3 o'clock p.m. ranged from 75·6 Fahr. and 77·7 Fahr. in March to 85·4 Fahr. and 86· Fahr. in July.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. SHEA,
Governor.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

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No. 16.

BARBADOS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1890.

(In continuation of Colonial Report No. 107, Old Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

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1892.

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No. 16.

BARBADOS.

[In continuation of Colonial Report No. 107, Old Series.]

Acting Governor SIR F. NAPIER BROOME to LORD KNUTSFORD.

MY LORD, Government House, July 4, 1891.

I HAVE the honour to transmit six copies of the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1890, together with a very complete report thereon by the Acting Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. (Signed) F. NAPIER BROOME.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

BLUE BOOK REPORT, 1890.

Taxes and Duties.

1. During the progress of consolidating the Acts of the Colony relating to fiscal imposts a few trifling alterations have been made in the fees payable in the Market and in the Court of Error, but no change worthy of note has occurred, and the principal duties leviable in the Colony remain the same as are imposed under the Trade Act, 1889. The taxes paid on land, horses, and dogs, and wheeled vehicles, remain unchanged.

Finance.

	£	s.	d.
2. The balance to the credit of the general revenue on 1st January was - - - - -	54,626	18	6
The receipts during the year were -	186,179	6	3
Total - -	240,806	4	9
The expenditure during the year was	181,635	13	10½
Balance on 31st December 1890 -	59,170	10	10½

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3. The revenue of 1890 was the largest ever collected in the Colony, and was 27,876*l.* 6*s.* 3*d.* in excess of the estimate. Of this excess the customs and excise duties yielded over 23,000*l.*, a satisfactory indication of the healthy condition of trade consequent on the reaping of a large crop of sugar.

4. The expenditure, which was within the estimate, includes two amounts of 10,000*l.* transferred from the general revenue and placed to separate accounts for the purposes of a new lunatic asylum and of proposed harbour works. The absolute disbursements for the requirements of the Colony during the year amounted, therefore, to 161,635*l.* 13*s.* 10½*d.*, an increase of over 15,000*l.* as compared with the expenditure of the previous year. This increase is mainly due to the increase of the police force—or rather to the restoring of the force—to its former strength before the passing of the Retrenchment Act of 1887, to the wider operations of the Public Works Department, to the importing of a steam fire-engine, and to a grant of 1,000*l.* voted by the Legislature towards the relief of the sufferers from the great fire in Martinique.

5. The following tables give the principal heads of revenue and expenditure as compared with the three previous years :—

Revenue.

Year.	Customs.	Excise.	Other Receipts.	Total.
	£	£	£	£
1890 - -	116,415	30,517	39,247	186,179
1889 - -	111,438	26,206	37,076	174,720
1888 - -	100,287	24,997	37,429	162,713

Expenditure.

Year.	Salaries.	Other Expenses.	Total.
	£	£	£
1890 - -	68,960	112,675	181,635
1889 - -	65,896	80,210	146,106
1888 - -	65,205	84,504	149,709

The assets of the Colony at the close of the year were:—

	£.	s.	d.
Balance in the Public Treasury -	59,170	10	10½
To credit of new lunatic asylum -	9,974	11	1
„ harbour works -	10,123	0	0
Loans to parishes, &c. - -	1,356	5	0
Water rates due from St. Michael's parish - - - -	1,833	6	8
Sinking fund for public debt (nominal value) - -	7,058	12	6
Total -	89,516	6	1½

Public Debt.

7. The public debt was not increased during the year and remains at 30,100*l.*

Local Revenues.

8. Local revenues are raised and the proceeds expended by the vestries of the 11 parishes of the island. Rates are laid on the owners of land and houses and on profitable trades. Separate rates are raised for the maintenance of roads, and a tax is levied on horses, mules, asses, and wheeled vehicles. The revenue derived from this source is supplemented by an annual grant from the Legislature of 5,450*l.*

9. The total amount of revenue raised by the parochial vestries during the year, including the legislative grant of 5,450*l.*, was 51,663*l.* The parochial expenditure proper, including poor relief and the up-keep of churches, chapels, and schools, amounted to 33,635*l.*, and the amount expended on highways was 13,622*l.* Total parochial expenditure, 47,257*l.*

Military Expenditure.

10. The expenditure incurred by the Imperial Government for military purposes in the Colony was 53,090*l.*, an increase of 5,707*l.* as compared with 1889.

Public Works.

11. No new works of any importance were undertaken during the year, and the expenditure, amounting to 4,269*l.* 16*s.* 3*d.*, was incurred almost entirely on account of repairs and up-keep of existing buildings. A project for the improvement of Bridgetown, by purchasing and removing a number of small tenements erected along the sea front of the city and building a sea wall with an esplanade in their room, was sanctioned by the Legislature, and a

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sum of 15,000*l.* voted for the carrying out of the first portion of the scheme. The preliminary survey of the properties to be purchased was commenced, and the further execution of the work is awaiting the completion of necessary legal formalities.

12. A report by Mr. Harrison Hayter on a proposed scheme of harbour improvements was received during the year, and the estimate of 300,000*l.* is reserved for future consideration.

Legislation.

12*a*. The Legislature was in session from the beginning of the year till the 28th October, and during that period 68 Acts were passed. The consolidation of existing statutes was commenced and 30 consolidating Acts were assented to. Of the remaining 38 measures the following are the most important:—

The Superannuation (Refund of Contributions) Act.
The Prosecution of Perjury Act.
The Bay Street Improvement Act.
The Public Buildings Insurance Act.
The Census Act.
The Customs Establishment Act.
The Water Supply Company Act Amendment Act.
The Pension Act.

Political Franchise.

12*b*. The elective franchise, as regulated by an Act of the Legislature passed in 1884, remains unchanged. The qualification of an elector is placed very low, being fixed at 5*l.* freehold, 15*l.* occupant or lodger, 4*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.* salary, 50*l.* income and other minor qualifications, but out of a population of over 180,000 the number of electors registered at the last general election was only 2,341. There was a general election on 21st October 1890, the only contest occurring for one of the seats of the city of Bridgetown.

Councils and Assemblies.

13. *Executive Council.*—In the early part of the year the Executive Council was strengthened by the addition of Mr. W. H. Greaves, Solicitor-General, and Hon. G. C. Pile, President of Legislative Council.

Civil Establishment.

14. The Colonial Secretary, Mr. C. C. Knollys, was granted leave of absence from July to November, and was then appointed to act as Administrator of St. Lucia.

15. Mr. J. H. Brady was appointed Superintendent of Public Works in the place of Mr. L. Payne Gallwey, promoted to Demerara.

16. The office of Assistant Harbour Master was revived by an Act of the Legislature in January, and Mr. Alfred Browne was appointed.

17. Mr. P. L. Dillon was appointed Comptroller of Customs in December, *vice* Mr. J. K. Browne, placed on pension list.

Pensions.

18. Pensions were granted during the year to Mr. J. K. Browne, late Comptroller of Customs, 300*l.* per annum, and to five subordinate officials in the Police, Customs, and Education Departments, small sums varying from 10*l.* to 25*l.* per annum.

19. A Pension Act for public officers was passed by the Legislature in the month of October, but at the close of the year had not received Her Majesty's allowance.

Imports and Exports.

20. The following table shows the values of the imports and exports in 1890, as compared with those of the previous five years :—

Year.	Imports.	Increase.	Decrease.	Exports.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1885 - - -	890,690	—	265,539	1,003,803	—	314,985
1886 - - -	863,491	—	27,199	739,911	—	263,982
1887 - - -	983,187	119,696	—	1,063,397	323,486	—
1888 - - -	1,058,491	75,304	—	1,074,583	11,186	—
1889 - - -	1,211,370	152,879	—	1,029,588	—	44,995
1890 - - -	1,193,723	—	17,647	1,204,390	174,801	—

The direction of trade was as follows :—

Imports.

——	1890.	1889.
	£	£
United Kingdom - - -	508,697	508,245
British Colonies - - -	213,255	212,812
Foreign Countries - - -	471,770	490,313

Exports.

	1890.	1889.
	£	£
United Kingdom - - -	130,540	131,385
British Colonies - - -	317,056	278,198
Foreign Countries - - -	756,793	620,005

21. The following comparative tables show the quantities and values of the principal articles imported into and exported from the Colony in the years 1889 and 1890:—

Quantities and value of Principal Articles Imported in the years 1889–1890.

Barbados. Imports.		1889.	1890.
Principal Articles.			
Butter - - -	Lbs.	556,924	1,037,860
	£	20,885	38,920
Corn and grain -	Bushels.	334,644	278,050
	£	57,256	54,128
Indian corn meal -	Barrels.	47,172	45,321
	£	35,379	33,990
Flour, wheat, or rye	Barrels.	75,017	72,496
	£	93,772	90,620
Fish, dried - -	Quintals.	96,008	97,742
	£	57,605	58,645
Hardware and metals (new)	£	57,460	56,557
Linens and cottons - -	£	172,288	198,645
Lumber - -	Feet.	8,886,763	10,918,959
	£	26,660	32,757
Manure (guano) -	Tons.	2,195	830
	£	21,950	8,300
Meat, salted -	Lbs.	4,323,017	3,496,680
	£	54,037	43,708
Rice - -	Lbs.	15,556,442	11,909,007
	£	64,818	49,621
Staves and shooks -	Pcs.	6,934,067	2,306,603
	£	62,407	20,759
Total value of principal and other articles.	£	1,211,370	1,193,723

Quantities and value of Principal Articles Exported in the years 1889–1890.

Barbados. Exports.		1889.	1890.
Principal Articles.			
Fish, dried	Quintals.	54,284	56,789
	£	32,570	34,073
Flour, wheat, or rye	Barrels.	31,054	20,238
	£	38,817	25,297
Salted meat	Lbs.	802,697	699,986
	£	10,034	8,750
Molasses	Punches.	44,818	51,904
	£	140,056	162,200
Rice	Lbs.	2,431,772	1,151,435
	£	10,132	4,798
Rum	Gallons.	3,486	3,467
	£	261	260
Sugar, Raw	Hds.	62,338	81,868
	£	623,380	818,680
Total value of principal and other articles.	£	1,029,588	1,204,390

Additional Principal Articles Imported in the years 1889–1890.

Barbados. Imports.		1889.	1890.
Bread, navy pilot and crackers	Lbs.	4,379,655	4,295,590
	£	19,708	19,330
Coal and mixed preparations thereof and coke.	Tons.	19,068	19,761
	£	19,068	19,761
Manure, all other except guano	Tons.	17,178	10,330
	£	117,252	66,465
Oil, kerosine	Gallons.	313,094	391,436
	£	9,784	12,232
Soap	Lbs.	1,391,200	1,555,728
	£	8,695	9,723
Spirits	Gallons.	76,222	95,254
	£	15,198	18,646
Tobacco	Lbs.	220,606	249,577
	£	10,644	11,117

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Shipping.

22. The total number of vessels entered and cleared in 1890 was 2,929 with a tonnage of 1,246,262 tons, as against 2,771 vessels with a tonnage of 1,217,728 tons in 1889.

23. The following tables show the countries from and to which vessels entered and cleared in 1890 as compared with 1889, distinguishing sailing from steam vessels:—

Entered.

Countries from whence.	Number.				Tonnage.			
	Sailing.		Steam.		Sailing.		Steam.	
	1890.	1889.	1890.	1889.	1890.	1889.	1890.	1889.
Great Britain - -	32	32	132	134	10,938	14,330	187,270	186,304
United States - -	98	122	60	52	25,802	38,542	58,774	52,411
British North America	124	127	7	—	14,731	19,014	6,513	—
British West Indies and Guiana - -	606	581	149	143	30,409	30,435	192,601	197,908
Foreign West Indies -	83	54	2	—	7,737	3,934	3,277	—
Brazil - - - -	70	34	4	1	31,330	15,169	3,850	1,920
Buenos Ayres - -	15	47	—	—	9,271	26,606	—	—
Other countries - -	75	70	3	—	31,210	25,170	6,470	—
Total - - -	1,103	1,067	357	330	161,428	173,200	458,755	438,543

Cleared.

Countries to which.	Number.				Tonnage.			
	Sailing.		Steam.		Sailing.		Steam.	
	1890.	1889.	1890.	1889.	1890.	1889.	1890.	1889.
Great Britain - -	10	18	44	44	4,955	5,628	71,141	72,065
United States - -	120	164	26	25	53,125	71,428	25,274	26,593
British North America	179	97	5	—	35,153	20,085	4,380	—
British West Indies and Guiana - -	667	638	277	244	48,441	53,571	352,461	319,460
Foreign West Indies -	85	95	5	5	12,821	14,069	4,118	5,089
Other countries - -	48	38	3	6	8,200	6,452	6,010	11,545
Total - - -	1,109	1,050	360	324	162,695	171,233	463,384	434,752

Education.

24. Elementary Schools.—At the close of the year there were 201 schools of this class receiving Government aid, of these 64 were primary, 24 combined, and 113 infant schools. The number of schools is the same at the close of 1889, but the attendance has increased by 1,345. The average attendance for the year under report was 14,284, as against 12,939 in the previous year. The total expenditure from the Colonial Treasury for salaries to teachers of elementary schools was 8,488*l.*, an increase of 131*l.* over the expenditure for 1889. The supervision of the schools was greatly assisted by the appointment of an inspector's assistant, who rendered efficient help to the inspector and sub-inspector in visiting and examining schools both in the northern and southern districts of the island. Elementary school work was sent as an exhibit to the Jamaica Exhibition, and honourable mention by the Exhibition Commission was obtained in several cases.

25. Second Grade Schools.—There were four second grade schools at work during the year, the one at Pilgrim Place having been closed for lack of attendance. These schools are as follows:—Combermere School Bridgetown. Established 1879; assisted by a leigslative grant of 200*l.* per annum, and endowed from other sources with an annual income of 182*l.* Number of pupils at close of 1890, 99. Coleridge School, in the parish of Saint Peter. Established in 1880; assisted by a legislative grant of 100*l.* per annum. Number of pupils at close of 1890, 24. Alleyne School, in the parish of Saint Andrew, established 1880; assisted by a legislative grant of 100*l.* and with a small private endowment of 38*l.* 9*s.* 3*d.* Number of pupils at close of 1890, 25, The Parry School, in the parish of St. Lucy. Established in 1880; assisted by a legislative grant of 100*l.* per annum. Number of pupils at close of 1890, 38.

26. First Grade Schools.—Harrison College, in the town, and the Lodge school in the interior of the island, are the only two schools of this class for boys in the Colony. Harrison College, established in 1833, is assisted by a legislative grant of 1,000*l.* per annum, and there were 147 boys on the books at the close of 1890. The Lodge School, established in 1881, is assisted by a legislative grant of 500*l.* per annum, and had an attendance of 42 boys at the close of 1890.

27. Both these schools are conducted by university men, the former having a head master and eight assistant masters, the latter a head master and two assistant masters. There are boarding establishments attached to both schools under the direct supervision of the head masters.

28. The Queen's College, which is the only public school in the island for girls, is situate in Bridgetown, and is conducted by a head mistress, four assistant mistresses, and a music master. It was established in 1880, and at the close of 1890 had an attendance of 107 pupils. The school is assisted by a legislative grant of

400*l.* per annum, and may be regarded as one of the most flourishing educational institutions in the Colony.

29. Codrington College, which was founded in 1745, is supported by a legacy of General Codrington administered by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel and is the only collegiate institution in the West Indies, being affiliated to Durham University. Four scholarships, each of the value of 40*l.* per annum, are endowed by the Legislature. The number of students at the close of the year was 17.

Ecclesiastical.

30. There are 11 parish churches in the island, 33 chapels, and two chapel schools, making a total of 46 places of worship belonging to the Church of England.

31. The endowment of the Church of England from the general revenue is 11,500*l.*; each rector has a house and glebe, 14 of the curates have houses, and 16 receive an allowance from the vestry for house rent.

32. On a principle of concurrent endowment an annual grant is made to other denominations as follows:—

Roman Catholic	50*l.*	per annum.
Wesleyan	700*l.*	,,
Moravians	400*l.*	,,

Reformatory and Industrial School.

33. The Reformatory, established in 1883 and maintained at an annual cost of about 1,900*l.*, is doing a good work in the Colony.

The number of inmates on 1st January 1890	115	
Out on licence	3	
	——	118
Received during the year, committed by the Chief Justice and the several Police Magistrates		24
		142
Discharged during the year	18	
Pardoned by the Governor	2	
Out on licence	1	
Died	1	
	——	22
Total remaining 31st December 1890		120

34. The total cost of maintenance per boy, including provision, clothing, furniture, tools, and implements, hospital and medicine, water, light, and miscellaneous expenditure, was 5*l.* 18*s.* 11*d.*

35. The boys are employed chiefly on agricultural work cultivating the land belonging to the institution, and assisting in the experimental planting which the superintendent, as head of the botanical station, carries out. Trades are taught, and each boy is put through a course of elementary schooling.

Savings Bank.

36. The increased transactions of the savings bank during he year point to the steady progress of the institution as is shown in the following comparative table :—

Year.	No. of Depositors on 31st December.	Amount deposited during the Year.	Amount withdrawn during the Year.	Amount in Deposit on 31st December.
	£	£	£	£
1885 - -	6,878	42,596	39,105	61,638
1886 - -	7,290	43,938	41,995	65,289
1887 - -	7,763	62,151	51,393	77,946
1888 - -	8,364	77,047	60,146	97,210
1889 - -	9,067	106,741	81,311	125,708
1890 - -	9,716	106,229	100,773	134,521

37. The reserve fund at the end of the year was 4,385*l.*, which, added to the amount on deposit, make the total funds of the bank 138,906*l.*, or 9,594*l.* more than they were at the end of 1889.

38. The annual return shows the following disposition of the funds :—

	£	s.	d.
Mortgages on landed security -	11,497	10	7
English Consols - - -	17,032	4	5
New South Wales Stock - -	18,370	18	9
South Australian Stock - -	7,358	15	0
Victoria Stock - - -	6,840	5	0
Cape of Good Hope Stock - -	3,990	18	9
Ceylon Stock - - - -	6,143	2	11
Canada Stock - - -	16,515	11	7
Barbados Government Debentures -	26,000	0	0
Loans to parishes - - -	1,676	10	0
Colonial Bank at deposit receipt -	22,300	0	0
Colonial Bank at current account -	958	14	2
Balance in hand - - -	221	18	10
Total - - -	138,906	9	10

Criminal Statistics.

39. The total number of offences reported to the police or magistrates during the year was 4,213. This number is less than the average for the 10 years 1881–1890 inclusive, which is 4,243, and is also less than the corresponding number in 1889, which was 4,791. The average for the five years 1881–1885 inclusive is 4,363, and that for the five years 1886–1890 inclusive is 4,123. The number for 1890 as well as that for 1889 is, therefore, in excess of the average for the last five years.

40. The number of offences against the person reported in 1890 was 693. This is less than the corresponding number in 1889, which was 831, but is above the average for the last five years, which is 559.

41. Prædial larceny shows a decrease, the number of cases reported during the year being 860, the average for the last five years being 936.

42. The number of offences against property other than prædial larceny was 1,183. This is just above the five years' average, which is 1,167, but it is below the number for 1889, which is 1,247.

43. The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates in 1890 was 10,354, or 138 less than the corresponding number in 1889. Of the persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates in 1890, 2,480, or not quite 24 per cent. of the whole number, were acquitted. The total number of convictions was 7,875, of which 94 were convictions in the superior courts and 7,781 were summary convictions. As compared with 1889 the summary convictions were 211 more and the convictions in the superior courts were two less.

44. The criminal statistics for 1890 may be regarded as on the whole satisfactory. The numbers given compare favourably with those for the preceding 10 years, even on the assumption that the population has remained the same during that period; and when it is considered that the population is increasing and that no corresponding increase in crime is discernible the result must be viewed with satisfaction.

Gaols and Prisoners.

45. The numbers of male adult persons committed during the year for all purposes was 1,493, being 81 in excess of the year 1889. The number of male juveniles was 57, being 20 less than in the previous year.

46. On the female side the number of adult prisoners committed for all purposes was 1,504, being 34 less than 1889. There were 26 juveniles, being 7 more than in the previous year.

47. During the year 11 prisoners were released on tickets of leave. The "mark system" has been introduced and is made applicable to penal servitude men. Under it every such convict has it in his power to earn a remission not exceeding one-fourth

of his sentence, and he is also allowed, in proportion to the amount of remission earned, a gratuity not in any case exceeding 2*l.*

48. The discipline on the male side of the prison where the separate system is in force has been good. The Act passed in 1888 to punish persistent malingering under the provisions of which malingerers are at the expiration of their original sentence detained for a further period equal in duration to the time passed in punishment has had a remarkably good effect, the number of prisoners punished for malingering being 161, as against 375 for the year 1889 and 467 for the year 1888.

49. On the female side, where for want of accommodation the associated still to some extent exists, the discipline has not been so well maintained; and it is hoped that the arrangements now being made for the further provision of separate cells will soon be completed.

50. The cooperage was carried on during the year, but owing to the high prices which had to be paid for material and the low price at which the packages were sold the profits for the year were small, being only 54*l.* 4*s.* 10*d.*, as against 425*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.* in 1889.

51. The prisoners were also employed in mattress-making; 114 beds, 140 pillows, and 50 bolsters were made for the General Hospital out of cocoanut fibre picked in the prison. As the cocoanut husk and all the materials are supplied by the hospital authorities, and as no charge is made for labour, no profits arise from this industry.

52. A new hospital, built in most part by convict labour, was completed during the year and was occupied on 10th December.

53. The sanitary report of the prison is good. On the male side the death rate per 1,000 was 17·1 as against 36·5 in 1889, on the female side 18·3 as against 18·2 in 1889.

Agriculture.

54. By far the greater portion of the land under cultivation is devoted to the production of the sugar cane, which forms the staple produce of the island. The following table shows the amount of sugar, molasses, and rum exported in 1890 as compared with the three previous years:—

Year.	Sugar.		Molasses.		Rum.	
	Hogsheads.	Value.	Puncheons.	Value.	Gallons.	Value.
		£		£		£
1887 -	68,872	702,925	44,239	138,248	91	7
1888 -	73,009	751,424	42,832	133,850	74	6
1889 -	65,268	667,330	44,818	140,056	3,422	256
1890 -	85,261	869,575	51,904	162,200	95	7

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Health.

55. The health of the Island was remarkably good throughout the year.

(Signed) C. A. KING HARMAN,
27th June 1891. Acting Colonial Secretary.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 42.

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ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1891.

(For Report for 1890, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 16.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
June 1892.

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1892.

[C.—6563.–26.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
6	British New Guinea	1889–90
7	St. Vincent	1890
8	Bermuda	,,
9	Leeward Islands	1889
10	St. Lucia	1890
11	Bahamas	,,
12	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
13	Gibraltar	,,
14	Zululand	,,
15	Sierra Leone	,,
16	Barbados	,,
17	Falkland Islands	,,
18	Labuan	,,
19	British Honduras	,,
20	Basutoland	1890–91
21	Trinidad and Tobago	1890
22	Leeward Islands	,,
23	Grenada	,,
24	Straits Settlements	,,
25	British Guiana	,,
26	St. Helena	,,
27	Mauritius	,,
28	Gambia	,,
29	Hong Kong	,,
30	Ceylon	1889
31	Lagos	,,
32	Lagos	1890
33	Ceylon	,,
34	Newfoundland	,,
35	Jamaica	1889–91
36	Victoria	1890
37	British New Guinea	1890–91
38	St. Vincent	1891
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40	Seychelles and Rodrigues	1889 and 1890
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MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.

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BARBADOS.

[For Report for 1890, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 16.]

Sir J. S. HAY to LORD KNUTSFORD.

MY LORD, Government House, April 14, 1892.

I HAVE the honour to transmit six copies of the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1891, and enclose the report thereon which has been furnished to me by the Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. (Signed) J. S. HAY.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

BLUE BOOK REPORT, 1891.

Taxes and Duties.

1. The principal alterations under this head are to be found in the table of exemptions from duty, several articles having been added, among which may be mentioned copper, bronze, lead, and zinc articles, tallow candles, implements, &c. for agriculture, medicinal extracts, lamps and lanterns, &c. A reduction of 50 per cent. has been made in the duty on a few other articles such as bread, biscuits, cheese, &c., and a reduction of 25 per cent. in the duty on salt beef, corn or maize, flour, &c. The above changes are the outcome of the negotiations which were entered into with the United States Government to obtain the admission of sugar, duty free, into the United States, under the McKinley Tariff Act. It was estimated that the loss to the revenue by this arrangement would be about 12,000*l.*, and to cover this loss the Legislature has passed an Act raising the duty on spirits. The Excise duty on rum was raised from 1*s.* 6*d.* to 1*s.* 10*d.* the gallon; the duty on spirits and cordials, except rum and gin, and perfumed spirits to be used as perfumery only, from 7*s.* 6*d.* to 10*s.* the gallon; sparkling wine from 2*s.* 6*d.* to 5*s.* the gallon, and all other kinds of wine from 11¼*d.* to 2*s.* the gallon.

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BARBADOS.

Finance.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
2. The balance on 1st January was -	59,170	10	10½
The receipts during the year were -	163,905	17	5
Total - -	223,076	8	3½
The expenditure during the year was -	176,800	19	8
Balance on 31st December - -	46,275	8	7½

3. The revenue of 1891, which was 12,528*l.* 7*s.* 5*d.* in excess of the estimate, was, however, 22,273*l.* 8*s.* 10*d.* less than that of the previous year; but when it is taken into consideration that the sugar crop of 1890 was the largest ever reaped, over 85,000 hds. having been exported, while in 1891 not quite 50,000 hds. were shipped, this large decrease in the revenue is sufficiently accounted for.

4. The expenditure during the year was 1,874*l.* 13*s.* 11*d.* in excess of the estimate, and at first sight appears to be 4,834*l.* 14*s.* 2*d* less than in 1890, but in the year 1890 a sum of 20,000*l.* was withdrawn from the general revenue for the purposes of a new lunatic asylum and harbour works, and cannot properly be taken as forming part of the expenditure of that year; and in 1891, 6,363*l.* 6*s.* 11*d.* was paid on account of the salaries for the month of December, in previous years paid in January of the ensuing year, making 13 months' salaries to be accounted for in the year. If therefore the expenditure in 1890 is reduced by 20,000*l.* and that in 1891 by 6,363*l.* 6*s.* 11*d.*, the result shows an increased expenditure in 1891 of 8,801*l.* 18*s.* 10½*d.* This increase is due to the increase in the staffs of certain departments, to the large outlay in the Public Works Department, to a remittance to England for the purchase of barges for the dredger; to a grant of 1,000*l.* voted by the Legislature for the relief of the sufferers by the hurricane in Martinique and to the cost of taking the census.

5. The following tables give the principal heads of revenue and expenditure as compared with the three previous years:—

Revenue.

Year.	Customs.	Excise.	Other Receipts.	Total.
	£	£	£	£
1891 - -	99,780	25,298	38,827	163,905
1890 - -	116,415	30,517	39,247	186,179
1889 - -	111,438	26,206	37,076	174,720
1888 - -	100,287	24,997	37,429	162,713

Expenditure.

Year.	Salaries.	Other Expenses.	Total.
	£	£	£
1891 - -	*78,249	98,551	176,800
1890 - -	68,960	112,675	181,635
1889 - -	65,896	80,210	146,106
1888 - -	65,205	84,504	149,709

* Salaries for 13 months.

Public Debt.

6. The public debt remains the same as in the previous year, viz., 30,100*l.*, towards the redemption of which the sinking fund now amounts to 8,371*l.*

Local Revenues.

7. The total amount of revenue raised by the parochial vestries during the year, including the legislative grant of 5,450*l.* for roads, was 56,679*l.* The parochial expenditure amounted to 55,723*l.*, of which 40,777*l.* has been expended in poor relief and the upkeeps of churches, chapels, and schools, and 14,946*l.* on highways.

Military Expenditure.

8. The expenditure incurred by the Imperial Government for military purposes in the Colony was 54,186*l.*, or 1,096*l.* more than in 1890.

Public Works

9. The following were the principal public works in course of construction during the year. A new lunatic asylum, powder magazine, quarantine hospital on Pelican Island, female prison extension at Glendary.

10. A revised harbour improvement scheme was prepared by Mr. J. H. Brady, the Superintendent of Public Works, which is likely to receive favourable consideration by the Legislature.

Legislation.

11. The Legislative Session commenced in January 1891, and ended in the following January. 97 Acts were passed during the Session, 89 of which were assented to in 1891. The consolidation of existing statutes, which was commenced in 1890, was continued,

BARBADOS.

and 59 consolidating Acts were assented to; of the remaining 38 Acts the following are the most important:—

The Saint Michael's Parish Rating and Loan Act.
The Contempt of Court Act Amendment Act.
The Pension Act, 1890, Amendment Act, 1891.
The Friendly Societies Act Amendment Act.
The Evidence Act Amendment Act.
The Customs Tariff Act.

Political Franchise.

12. "The Representation of the People Act, 1891," which consolidates the Acts regulating the franchise, makes no change in the qualification of an elector, except that under the head income there is added the receipt of an annual income of 50*l.* derived from a pension. A general election was held on 26th January 1891, the only contest being one of the seats for the rural part of the parish of St. Michael.

Councils and Assemblies.

13. The *Executive Council* and *Executive Committee* were the same as in 1890.

14. *House of Assembly.*—Mr. C. P. Bowen was elected in place of Dr. A. Bayne for the rural part of the parish of St. Michael, and Mr. J. C. Packer in the place of Mr. E. T. Kellman for St. Lucy.

Civil Establishment.

15. His Excellency Sir W. J. Sendall left for England on the 14th March, and Major General J. M. G. Tongue administered the Government from the 14th to 15th March, Sir F. N. Broome arrived in the Colony and administered the Government from the 16th March to the 17th August. Major General Tongue then again assumed the administration from the 18th August till the 24th November, when he was superseded by Sir J. S. Hay.

16. The Colonial Secretary, Mr. C. C. Knollys, was absent from the Island till the 2nd of August; Mr. C. A. King Harman acted.

17. The Colonial Treasurers Act vests the appointment of the Treasury clerks in the Governor and they were re-appointed accordingly.

18. An assistant clerk was temporarily added to the Public Works Department at a salary of 60*l.* per annum, the work in that department being greatly increased owing to the number of public works in course of erection.

19. The salary of the Colonial Postmaster was increased under the Post Office Act, 1891, from 500*l.* to 600*l.* per annum.

20. Colonel J. Elliott, Inspector General of Police, was on leave from 31st January to 9th November, Mr. H. H. Haynes, the Inspector of Police, acting.

Pensions.

21. Pensions were granted during the year to Thomas Kerr C.M.G., formerly Judge of Assistant Court of Appeal, 275*l.*; Reverend Canon R. F. Berkeley, rector of St. Philip's, 134*l.* 11*s.* 2*d.*; F. Tinling, clerk of the Assistant Court of Appeal, 77*l.* 12*s.* 11*d.*; W. C. Bailey, police magistrate's clerk, 50*l.*, and to six other subordinate officials of the police, prisons, and fire brigade.

Population.

22. The population of the Island, by census of 5th April 1891, was 182,306, that by census of 1881 was 171,452, showing an increase of 10,854, and giving an average of 1,096 persons to the square mile, against 1,030 in 1881

23. In so densely populated an island an increase in the population of over 1,000 per year is a serious matter. The great disproportion in the sexes, an excess of 20,096 females being shown, is ascribed to emigration, the majority of emigrants being male adults, a great number of whom periodically return to the Island.

25. The number of persons stated as employed in agriculture was 44,995; in manufactures, 4,690, and in commerce, 8,607.

26. The number of baptisms during the year was 7,769, and of burials, 6,794, the former being 975 in excess of the latter.

Savings Bank.

27. The transactions of the savings bank during the year are shown in the annexed comparative table:—

Year.	No. of Depositors on 31st December.	Amount deposited during the Year.	Amount withdrawn during the Year.	Amount in Deposit on 31st December.
	£	£	£	£
1886 - -	7,290	43,938	41,995	65,289
1887 - -	7,763	62,151	51,393	77,946
1888 - -	8,364	77,047	60,146	97,210
1889 - -	9,067	106,741	81,311	125,708
1890 - -	9,716	106,229	100,773	134,521
1891 - -	9,936	89,565	94,293	—

Education.

28. Elementary schools.—The number of schools of this class receiving Government aid was the same as in 1890, viz., 201; of these 62 were primary, 28 combined and 111 infant schools. The

average attendance for the year was 13,624, a falling off of 660 from the average in 1890. The expenditure from the Colony Treasury for salaries to teachers of elementary schools was 8,943*l.*, an increase of 455*l.* over the expenditure for the previous year.

29. Second Grade Schools.—The second grade were four in number and were as follows:—Combermere School, Bridgetown, number of pupils, 103. Coleridge School in the parish of Saint Peter, number of pupils, 27. Alleyne School, in the parish of Saint Andrew, number of pupils, 21. The parish school in the parish of Saint Peter, number of pupils, 36.

30. First Grade Schools.—There are three first grade schools, two for boys and one for girls. Harrison College (for boys) has a staff of one head master and eight assistant masters; number of pupils, 157.

The Lodge School for boys has a head master and two assistant masters, number of pupils, 40.

31. Queens College, the only public school in the Island for girls, is conducted by a head mistress and six assistant mistresses and a music master; number of pupils, 126.

32. Codrington College, which is affiliated to Durham University, had 15 students.

Ecclesiastical.

The rectorship of St. Philip's became vacant during the year on the resignation of Canon R. F. Berkeley, who retired on a pension. Mr. E. L. Smith was appointed. The curacy of St. Mary's was vacant consequent on the resignation of Mr. F. Skinner.

Reformatory and Industrial School.

34. The number of inmates in the reformatory

on 1st of January was - -	120	
Number out on licence - - -	1	
	——	121
Received during the year, committed by the Chief Justice and the several police magistrates - - -		34
Total - - - - -		155
Discharged during the year - -	32	
Pardoned by the Governor - -	2	
Died - - - - -	1	
Transferred to lunatic asylum - -	1	
Out on licence - - -	1	
	——	37
Total remaining 31st December 1891 -		118

35. The total cost of maintenance per boy, including provision, clothing, furniture, tools, and implements, hospital and medicine, &c., was 5*l.* 11*s.* 0¼*d.*, or 7*s.* 10¾*d.* per boy per annum less than the previous year.

Imports and Exports.

36. The following table shows the values of imports and exports in 1891, as compared with those of the previous five years :—

Year.	Imports.	Increase.	Decrease.	Exports.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£	£	
1886 - -	863,491	—	27,199	739,911	—	263,982
1887 - - -	983,187	119,696	—	1,063,397	323,486	—
1888 - - -	1,058,491	75,304	—	1,074,583	11,186	—
1889 - - -	1,211,370	152,879	—	1,029,588	—	44,995
1890 - - -	1,193,723	—	17,647	1,204,390	174,801	—
1891 - - -	1,067,617	—	126,106	814,254	—	390,136

The direction of trade was as follows :—

Imports.

Country.	1891.	1890.
	£	£
United Kingdom - - -	432,637	508,697
British Colonies - - -	207,185	213,255
Foreign Countries - - -	427,794	471,770

Exports.

Country.	1891.	1890.
	£	£
United Kingdom - - -	74,605	130,540
British Colonies - - -	261,765	317,056
Foreign Countries - - -	477,883	756,793

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37. The following comparative tables show the quantities and values of the principal articles imported into and exported from the Colony in the years 1890 and 1891:—

Quantities and Values of Principal Articles imported in the years 1890–1891.

Barbados. Imports.		1890.	1891.
Principal Articles.			
Butter	Lbs.	1,037,860	708,633
	£	38,920	26,573
Corn and grain	Bushels	278,050	326,233
	£	54,128	64,334
Indian corn meal	Barrels	45,321	46,822
	£	33,990	35,116
Flour, wheat, or rye	Barrels	72,496	71,676
	£	90,620	89,595
Fish, dried	Quintals	97,742	80,676
	£	58,645	48,405
Hardware and metals (new)	£	56,557	32,910
Linens and cottons	£	198,645	130,544
Lumber	Feet	10,918,959	9,957,736
	£	32,757	29,873
Manure	Tons	11,160	13,287
	£	74,765	88,118
Meat, salted	Lbs.	3,496,680	2,777,976
	£	43,708	34,725
Rice	Lbs.	11,909,007	20,406,013
	£	49,621	85,025
Staves and shooks	Pcs.	2,306,603	2,736,163
	£	20,759	24,625
Bread, navy pilot and crackers	Lbs.	4,295,590	4,360,721
	£	19,330	19,623
Coal, mixed preparations thereof and coke	Tons	19,760	18,028
	£	19,761	18,028
Oil, kerosine	Gallons	391,436	360,592
	£	12,232	11,268
Spirits	Gallons	95,254	79,648
	£	18,646	16,376
Tobacco	Lbs.	249,577	162,904
	£	11,117	8,396
Total value of Imports	£	1,193,723	1,067,617

Quantities and Value of Principal Articles exported in the years 1890–1891.

Barbados. Exports.		1890.	1891.
Principal Articles.			
Fish, dried	Quintals	56,789	46,654
	£	34,073	27,992
Flour, wheat, or rye	Barrels	20,238	22,437
	£	25,297	28,046
Salted meat	Lbs.	699,986	643,518
	£	8,750	8,044
Molasses	Puncheons	51,904	32,318
	£	162,200	100,994
Rice	Lbs.	1,151,435	5,680,348
	£	4,798	23,668
Rum	Gallons	3,467	3,198
	£	260	239
Sugar, Raw	Hds.	81,868	48,186
	£	818,680	481,860
Total value of principal and other articles	£	1,204,390	814,254

Shipping.

38. The total number of vessels entered and cleared in 1891 was 2,677, with a tonnage of 1,178,305 tons; 628 of these, with a tonnage of 884,742 tons, were steam vessels; and 2,049, with a tonnage of 293,563 tons, were sailing vessels.

39. The following tables show the countries from and to which vessels entered and cleared in 1891 as compared with 1890, distinguishing sailing from steam vessels:—

Entered.

Countries from whence.	Number.				Tonnage.			
	Sailing.		Steam.		Sailing.		Steam.	
	1891.	1890.	1891.	1890.	1891.	1890.	1891.	1890.
Great Britain	32	32	133	132	10,856	10,938	200,234	187,270
United States	96	98	42	60	29,460	25,802	40,987	58,774
British North America	106	124	9	7	15,354	14,731	10,309	6,513
British West Indies and Guiana	578	606	116	149	31,400	30,409	161,176	192,601
Foreign West Indies	80	83	2	2	5,392	7,737	3,216	3,277
Brazil	53	70	3	4	25,612	31,330	4,968	3,850
Buenos Ayres	5	15	—	—	2,625	9,271	—	—
Other countries	74	75	9	3	25,383	31,210	21,481	6,470
Total	1,024	1,103	314	357	146,082	161,428	442,371	458,755

Cleared.

Countries to which.	Number.				Tonnage.			
	Sailing.		Steam.		Sailing.		Steam.	
	1891.	1890.	1891.	1890.	1891.	1890.	1891.	1890.
Great Britain - -	7	10	36	44	4,778	4,955	68,727	71,141
United States - -	117	120	30	26	51,286	53,125	32,735	25,274
British North America	100	179	6	5	19,751	35,153	6,520	4,380
British West Indies and Guiana - -	627	667	228	277	44,733	48,441	321,692	352,461
Foreign West Indies -	109	85	8	5	16,503	12,821	7,152	4,118
Other countries - -	65	48	6	3	10,430	8,200	5,545	6,010
Total - - -	1,025	1,109	314	360	147,481	162,695	442,371	434,752

Criminal Statistics.

40. The total number of offences reported to the police or the magistrates during 1891 was 5,079, or 866 more than in 1890. The average for the five years 1882–1886 inclusive is 4,376; that for the five years 1887–1891 inclusive is 4,261.

Apprehensions and Summonses.

41. The number of persons apprehended or summoned before the magistrates was 41,302, or 984 more than in 1890; of this number 2,897, or a little over 25 per cent. of the whole number, were acquitted. The total number of convictions was 8,393, 102 of which were convictions in the superior courts, and 8,291 were summary convictions. The summary convictions were thus 612 more, and the convictions in the superior courts 8 more, than in 1890.

42. The number of offences against the person in 1891 was 629, being 64 less than the number in 1890, and giving an average for the last five years of nearly 591.

43. The number of cases of prædial larceny reported was 1,544 as against 860 in 1890; the average for the last five years being 1,019.

44. The number of offences against property other than prædial larceny was 1,589, or 406 more than in 1890. The average for the last five years was 1,246,

45. Other offences numbered 1,317, a decrease of 160 in the number for the previous year.

Gaols and Prisoners.

46. In 1891, the number of male adult persons committed was 2,041, being 548 in excess of the year 1890. The number of male juveniles was 78, being 21 in excess of the previous year.

47. The number of female adults were 1,756, being 252 more than in 1890. There were 37 juveniles, being 11 more than in the year before.

48. Ten convicts were released during the year on ticket of leave, under the mark system, with a gratuity.

49. The discipline among the male prisoners was good on the whole. Malingering, which still heads the list of prison offences, shows a total of 231 against 161 last year, but few cases of persistent malingering were reported.

50. Among the female prisoners great difficulty was experienced in enforcing discipline, the prisoners being crowded together during the building of a second storey.

51. The profit realised by the cooperage still continues to decrease, being only 35*l.* 2*s.* 7*d.*, against 54*l.* 4*s.* 10*d.* in 1890 and 425*l.* 15*s.* 6*d* in 1889.

52. Mattresses were made for the General Hospital out of cocoanut fibre supplied by the hospital authorities, but no charge was made for the labour.

53. The sanitary condition of the prison was good, 82 male prisoners were treated in the prison hospital during the year, 7 of whom died, and 72 female prisoners, one of whom died. Dysentery and fever were the prevailing diseases.

Agriculture.

The following table shows the amount of sugar, molasses, and rum, the three principal products of the Island, exported in 1891 as compared with the three previous years:—

Year.	Sugar.		Molasses.		Rum.	
	Hogsheads.	Value.	Puncheons.	Value.	Gallons.	Value.
		£		£		£
1888 -	73,009	751,424	42,832	133,850	74	6
1889 -	65,268	667,330	44,818	140,056	3,422	256
1890 -	85,261	869,575	51,904	162,200	95	7
1891 -	50,547	517,275	32,318	100,993	641	48

Health.

55. Throughout the year influenza of a mild type was prevalent. There were also many cases of dysentery, and typhoid fever during the hot season, but on the whole the health of the Island may be said to have been fairly satisfactory.

C. C. KNOLLYS.
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office.
Barbadoes.
14th April 1892.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 20.

BASUTOLAND.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1890-91

(In continuation of Colonial Report No. 114, Old Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty



LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
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1892.

[C.—6563.-4.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

No.	Colony.	Year.
86	Heligoland	1889
87	Newfoundland	1888
88	Mauritius, Seychelles, and Rodrigues	,,
89	Zululand	1889
90	Gibraltar	,,
91	Grenada	,,
92	Bermuda	,,
93	St. Vincent	1888
94	St. Vincent	1889
95	Bahamas	,,
96	St. Lucia	,,
97	British Bechuanaland	1888–9
98	Turks and Caicos	1889
99	Gambia	,,
100	Straits Settlements	,,
101	St. Kitts-Nevis	1886
102	Basutoland (Governor's visit)	1890
103	British New Guinea	1888–9
104	Natal	1889
105	Malta	,,
106	British Guiana	,,
107	Barbados	,,
108	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
109	Western Australia	,,
110	Gold Coast (Agriculture)	1890
111	Labuan	1889
112	Jamaica	,,
113	Falkland Islands	,,
114	Basutoland	1889–90
115	Sierra Leone	1889
116	Fiji	,,
117	Hong Kong	,,
118	St. Helena	,,

NEW SERIES OF COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

1	British Honduras	1889
2	Mauritius	,,
3	British Bechuanaland	1889–90
4	Victoria	1889
5	Newfoundland	,,
6	British New Guinea	1889–90
7	St. Vincent	1890
8	Bermuda	,,
9	Leeward Islands	1889
10	St. Lucia	1890
11	Bahamas	,,
12	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
13	Gibraltar	,,
14	Zululand	,,
15	Sierra Leone	,,
16	Barbados	,,
17	Falkland Islands	,,
18	Labuan	,,
19	British Honduras	,,

No. 20.

BASUTOLAND.

[In continuation of Colonial Report No. 114, Old Series.]

No. 1.

Sir H. B. LOCH to LORD KNUTSFORD

Government House, Cape Town,
August 1, 1891.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit, for your Lordship's information, a copy of a despatch from Sir Marshall Clarke, containing his annual report on Basutoland for the year to 30th June 1891, and enclosing copies of reports from the various Assistant Commissioners and Medical Officers.

I enclose also a copy of the reply which I have addressed to Sir Marshall Clarke.

I am glad to bring to your Lordship's notice the continued progress which has been made in the effective administration of the territory during the year, and the salutary influence that Sir M. Clarke, by his judgment and tact, is earning over the Chiefs and people of Basutoland, while I also desire to express my high appreciation of the services of Mr. Lagden, and all the officers of the Basutoland Administration.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY B. LOCH,
Governor and High Commissioner.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 1 in No. 1.

Sir M. CLARKE to HIGH COMMISSIONER.

Resident Commissioner's Office, Basutoland,
July 21, 1891.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Excellency my report on British Basutoland for the year ended 30th June 1891, together with copies of reports from

The Assistant Commissioner, Berea.
Do. Leribe
Do. Mafeteng.
Do. Maseru.
Do. Mohales Hoek.
Do. Quthing.
The Medical Officer, Maseru.
Do. Leribe.
Do. Mafeteng.

o 68500. Wt. 19750.

BASUTOLAND.

Owing to severe illness the medical officer at Mohalies Hoek is unable to furnish his report.

(2.) Proclamations having legislative effect have been issued by the High Commissioner,

(*a.*) Establishing rules and regulations for the granting of gratuities on discharge to native police.

(*b.*) Amending proclamation 1*b.* of 1890 relative to pensions to interpreters.

(*c.*) Providing for entry of Basutoland into South African Customs Union.

(*d.*) Publishing Order in Council extending Part II. of the Fugitive Offenders Act to Basutoland.

(3.) During the first five months of the year under report I was on leave of absence. Mr. Lagden, Government Secretary, administered the territory.

(4.) In the month of September disturbances broke out amongst the Bataung tribe in South Basutoland, and between the Chiefs Joel, Molapo, and Matela in the north, the result of family or tribal disputes. Mr. Lagden, loyally supported by the Paramount Chief and his councillors, dealt with both cases successfully.

(5.) At the annual Pitso held in November last, the Acting Resident Commissioner dwelt upon the danger to which inter-tribal quarrels expose the Basuto, and emphasized his warning by reading to those present a letter on the subject addressed to the Paramount Chief by the High Commissioner on the occasion of his late visit to Basutoland.

(6.) Though strained relations still exist between certain of the Chiefs, there has been no further fighting.

(7.) The formation of a consultative council, the principle of which has been approved by the High Commissioner, is still being widely discussed by the people. Though the weight of public opinion is in its favour certain Chiefs more or less openly oppose it. The High Commissioner in his communication to the Basuto, describes the council as a gift granted under conditions by Her Majesty's Government, and, as the value of this gift appears to me to depend on its being at the spontaneous desire of the people themselves, I have abstained from bringing anything which could be construed into pressure to bear on the question. Letsie, supported by his eldest son Lerothodi, has submitted to me a list of names of nearly all the proposed members chosen by the minor chiefs which appears good and representative, and has asked me to name a day for the opening of the council at Maseru. This is now under consideration.

(8.) Very few cases of "smelling out" for witchcraft have come to the knowledge of Government. The practice of "eating up" people on trifling pretexts appears also to have received a decided check.

Justice between native and native is on the whole fairly administered in the Chiefs' Courts, though a tendency to deal harshly with minor offenders is sometimes brought to my notice

this is probably due to the Chiefs benefiting by the fines they inflict.

(9.) Notwithstanding that the border is constantly patrolled by the Basutoland police, I regret to have to say that a considerable amount of brandy smuggling, always in bottles, still goes on. This is markedly the case on our southern border. In the town of Wepener in the Orange Free State there are canteens which appear to be principally supported by selling drink to Basuto, besides which there are several well-known border canteens within the Orange Free State engaged in illicit trade. From the report of the Assistant Commissioner Mafeteng, it appears that no less than 58 cases of contraventions of the Basutoland Liquor Ordinance came before him during the past year. Experience has taught us that most Basuto, when addicted to drink, thieve, and that keepers of illicit canteens are, as a rule, receivers of stolen stock. This shows how closely the drink question affects security of property on both sides of the border

I have communicated with the President of the Orange Free State on this subject and he has promised me such co-operation as lies in his power.

(10.) Trade in Basutoland so far continues to improve. Returns for the year ended 31st December 1890, show imports to the amount of 250,000*l.* as against 160,000*l.* in the previous year. These figures are based on the value of goods consigned to Basutoland by Colonial or Orange Free State merchants—not on import values. Licenses for this year have been issued to—

Europeans - - - - -	100
Arabs or Coolies - - - -	20

Some of the stores in charge of the latter have been within the last few months closed or transferred to Europeans, owing to the original license holders having been discharged, it is said, for dishonesty by their employers or supporters.

11. The wheat crop throughout Basutoland suffered from the heavy and constant rains at harvest time. Much of the grain germinated before it could be placed in shelter. The mealie crop is rather below the average, while in most parts of the country the millet proved a total failure. Further, a diminution of the number of natives leaving the country to work, owing chiefly to a general reduction of wages at the principal mining centres, will tend to reduce trade in the ensuing year.

12. From the 1st July Basutoland is admitted into the South African Customs Union. All the arrangements called for by the system thus inaugurated have been made, and beyond the addition to our police force of three European constables, no alterations in the permanent staff of the territory appear necessary.

(13.) Our relations with neighbouring States continue to be very satisfactory. As a rule the Basutoland officials receive cordial co-operation from the officials of the Cape Colony and the Orange Free State.

BASUTOLAND.

(14.) In September last the President of the Orange Free State met the Acting Resident Commissioner for the purpose of personally visiting the sources of the Caledon River with a view to the settlement of a long pending question as to which was the particular stream indicated by Sir Philip Wodehouse, when in 1869 he defined the boundary between Basutoland and the Orange Free State. As a result the President, who, having had full powers delegated him by the Volksraad, informs me in a despatch, dated 26th June 1891, that he accepts our views.

(15.) In May last the High Commissioner authorised me to enter into negotiations with the Orange Free State Government on the subject of proposed telegraphic communication between Maseru and the Orange Free State system.

The President informs me that the Volksraad has sanctioned an expenditure of not exceeding 600*l.* for this purpose and proposes that a line from Lady Brand to Maseru be constructed, each State to bear half the cost.

(16.) The census taken in April last shows a population of—

Whites - - - - -	578
Natives - - - - -	218,324
Against	
Whites - - - - -	469
Natives - - - - -	127,707

given in the returns of 1875, the last occasion on which a census was taken in Basutoland. No aid extraneous to the territory was employed, and the Basutoland officers, who did their work with zeal and judgment, received much assistance from Letsie and the minor Chiefs, many of whom took an active part in collecting statistics.

(17.) The Chiefs have continued to render valuable assistance in recovering lost stock, bringing offenders to justice and otherwise maintaining order.

(18.) The exceptional rainfall this year has done much damage to the roads. By constant labour and supervision the main roads have been kept passable, but it will take time and considerable expenditure to restore them to order. The road from Quthing to Ongeluk's Nek is further advanced. Many necessary or useful public works have been completed or provided for, including public offices at Maseru.

Sub-Inspectors' quarters at Teyatyaneng; Medical Officers' quarters at Mafeteng and at Mohalies Hoek; hospital at Mafeteng; dispensaries at Mohalies Hoek and Leribe; constables' quarters at Mafeteng and Quthing; a house for accommodation of Chiefs and headmen visiting Maseru; portion of border fence; stabling at the Residency, Maseru, and elsewhere; alteration of Court House Mafeteng, &c.

(19.) The medical reports show a satisfactory state of health in the territory. In February last the Church of South Africa withdrew its support from the Medical Mission established at Mohalies

Hoek. This had been always supplemented by a Government grant for the purchase of medicines, &c. On the resignation of the doctor in charge it was considered undesirable that an important work should fall through, and a Government medical officer was appointed to fill the place. There are now four medical officers in charge of six free dispensaries. To these cottage hospitals or huts for hospital accommodation are gradually being added. The returns furnished by the medical officers show to what an extent their services are appreciated by the Basuto.

(20.) The missionaries of the various denominations show undiminished zeal in their good work. The Government grants in aid of education entrusted to them appear to be satisfactorily and economically administered. I regret to have to report the loss the Paris Evangelical Mission Society has sustained through the death of one of its experienced and valued members, Mr. Du Voisin, and through ill-health, I trust but for a time, of Dr. Casalis, head of the Morija, a training school, the marked success of which institutions I have mentioned on previous occasions. A separate report on the subject of education is forwarded herewith.*

(21.) I have much pleasure in reporting most favourably on the officers serving under me. The satisfactory state of the country fiscal, and otherwise, testifies to the way they have done their work.

I append a summary of general statistics.

I have, &c.

(Signed) M. CLARKE,
Resident Commissioner.

His Excellency
the High Commissioner for
South Africa.

Revenue.—(Local.)

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax - - -	19,611	16	0
Licenses - -	1,382	2	6
Fines and fees - -	735	7	6
Postal revenue - -	741	18	4
Miscellaneous - -	1,312	17	7
	23,784	1	11

Licenses.

General trades - - - -	120
Hawkers - - - - -	147

Schools.

Number of schools - - -	113
Number of scholars on books - -	6,932
Amount expended on education	3,491*l.* 18*s.* 11*d.*

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* *See* page 29.

BASUTOLAND.

ANNUAL REPORT upon the DISTRICT of BEREA, BASUTOLAND, the Year ended 30th June 1891.

The unfortunate disputes as to Chieftainship rights between the Chiefs Masupha and Peeta, Masupha and Leshoharo, and Masupha and Theko, still exist, and during the past year a quarrel between Masupha and Patso Mato has so far developed that Patso has announced his intention of separating himself from Masupha, and Masupha has informed Patso that in that case he will be expected to leave the district. These matters have been from time to time referred to me, and I have taken what steps have been possible to preserve the peace and to induce Masupha as Chief of the district to deal with the cases justly and to recognise the rights of his juniors, and I have pointed out to Peeta, Leshahoro, and Patso that they should respect and obey Masupha as their Chief. The dispute between Masupha and Theko Letsie refers to rights at Thaba Bosigo, where Masupha has lived for many years, but which is really not in the Berea district. In all these cases there is the danger of conflict between the Chiefs, and the younger Chiefs seem to have the sympathy of the Paramount Chief Letsie in their resistance to Masupha.

In the administration of justice, and collection of revenue, I have received the necessary assistance from the Chiefs, though Masupha has been dilatory in enforcing the payment of tax among his people.

The officers of the Orange Free State Government have co-operated with me in all border cases. The Landdrost of Lady-Brand has taken action to enforce the laws of the Free State against the illicit sale of brandy to natives, and the amount of drunkenness in the district is inconsiderable.

The wheat and mealie crops of the past season have been fairly abundant. The wheat had promised particularly well, but continuous rains during harvest injured a portion of the crop. The Kaffir corn suffered much from disease and the crop has been very small. The cattle are not in good condition, and it appears that the time will come when the Basuto will have to reduce either the number of their stock or the extent of their cultivation.

The trade of the past twelve months has been smaller than during the previous year, but there is an increase in the number of trading stations. Wheat has been sold for 15*s.* per muid, Kaffir corn for 20*s.*, and mealies for 5*s.*

The principal firm of Arab traders has ceased business under circumstances which suggest the improbability of Asiatic store-keepers finding support in future to carry on trade in this country. The roads have required to be continually repaired, and I have found it necessary to keep large road-parties employed. The numbers of new stores has necessitated the opening of new roads. I forward a report of my inspection of schools. The schools of the French Protestant Mission Society in the district have sustained

a great loss in the death of the Reverend Louis Duvoisin, who had been for 28 years in charge of Berea Mission.

There is no medical officer in this district. The medical officer at Maseru has visited the neighbourhood to inquire into the reported prevalence of leprosy among the natives. There appear to be a number of cases of this disease.

The following returns are attached.

Report of school inspections.*
Annual return of revenue.
" hut tax.*
" trading licenses.
" passes issued.
" civil and criminal cases.
" lost stock reported.*

(Signed) H. C. SLOLEY,
Berea, 6th July 1891. Assistant Commissioner.

Annual Return of Revenue collected in Berea District, Basutoland, during the year ended 30th June 1891.

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.
	£ s. d.
Hut tax	2,925 0 0
Licenses	285 0 0
Fees for transfer of licenses	0 15 0
Passes to remove grain	1 2 6
Fees for registration of marriages	1 5 0
Fees (stamps)	6 6 0
Judicial fines	53 14 6
Miscellaneous receipts	13 6 3
	3,286 9 3

Of the above hut tax 375*l.* represents arrears of tax for previous years. For the past year tax has been paid on 5,100 huts.

(Signed) H. C. SLOLEY,
Berea, 6th July 1891. Assistant Commissioner.

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* Not printed.

BASUTOLAND.

Return of trading Licenses issued in Berea District, Basutoland, during the year ending 30th June 1891.

To whom issued.	Name of Trading Station.
Tayab and Tar Mahomed -	Ramakaro's
G. Macaskell - - -	Puta's
J. B. Tully - - -	Mothloang's
Alexander Bain - -	Marthinn's
Tayab and Tar Mahomed -	Peetas.
S. J. Rhodes - - -	Senekal's.
S. J. Rhodes - - -	Sefekeng.
S. J. Rhodes - - -	Hangers Drift.
Tayab Anod & Co. - -	Teyateyaneng.
C. Stevens - - -	Teyateyaneng.
Maitin Bros. - - -	Teyateyaneng.
Maitin Bros. - - -	Berea.
C. Vincent & Co. - -	Lepokos.
C. Vincent & Co. - -	Phofalo's.
J. Bradshaw - - -	Malika's.
W. C. Pitout - - -	Sebalaba.
K. Macaskell - - -	Kena.
P. W. Harris & Co. - -	Peeta's.
Kassina Mahomed - -	Sefekeng.
Ismail Anod - - -	Fakus.
Tayab Anod & Co. - -	Nthlama's.
A. Sterley - - -	Thabo Bosigo.
M. Duncan - - -	Makoadis.
Tayab Anod & Co. - -	Lepoko's.

During the year the following hawkers' licenses, &c., have been issued :—

35 monthly hawkers' licenses.
7 free " "
9 passes to remove grain from Basutoland.

Return of passes issued at the office of the Assistant Commissioner of Berea, during the year ended 30th June 1891.

Passes issued to persons leaving Basutoland in search of work- - - - -	1,954
Passes issued to persons leaving Basutoland for other purposes - - - -	3,630
Total of passes issued - - - -	5,584

(Signed) H. C. SLOLEY,
Berea, 6 July 1891. Assistant Commissioner.

Return of Civil and Criminal Cases heard in the Court of the Assistant Commissioner of Berea during the year ended 30th June 1891.

Civil cases - - - -	4
Criminal cases - - - -	0
Contravention of trading regulations -	2
Contravention of liquor regulations - -	1
Theft - - - -	7
Assault - - - -	2
Cases dismissed - - -	1

(Signed) H. C. SLOLEY,
Berea, 6 July 1891. Assistant Commissioner.

LERIBE DISTRICT.

Annual Report for the Year ended 30th June 1891.

General.

I.—The past year has been an unusually disturbed one in this district. In the beginning of August 1890 the followers of Motsoeni, assisted by some of Jonathan's people, and headed by Motsoeni's younger brother Masupha, crossed the boundary line made by Government at Buthabuthe and cut down and removed the reeds belonging to Joel Molapo at that place in defiance of the remonstrances of the officer in charge of Buthabuthe Station. After some delay Jonathan went to Motsoene's, to whose village the reeds had been taken; and after some show of an inquiry a few bundles of the reeds were carried back to Joel's side of the boundary, and left there by Jonathan's men. As the quantity returned was about a twentieth part of what Joel was entitled to, and as Jonathan's men after throwing the bundles down

rode their horses over them and trampled them into the mud, this case cannot be regarded as satisfactorily settled. No punishment was inflicted on Motsoeni, or on the persons who cut the reeds.

II.—The encroachments of Lelingoana, Chief of the refugee Bathlokoa, on the rights of the sons of Molapo, which I referred to in my last Annual Report, have continued during the past year. These aggressions being committed in the name of the Paramount Chief, it is difficult to check them, except through Letsie himself. If the sons of Molapo would work unanimously in this matter, it might be possible to bring pressure to bear on Letsie, but it is difficult to get them to combine.

III.—A dispute, to which I referred in my last year's Report as having been originated by Lerothodi, came to a head in September 1890; when, after some fighting between herdsmen at the cattle-posts in Mechachaneng, Joel attacked Matela in force, and swept off a large number of cattle, and Matela took refuge in the Free State. Jonathan was persuaded to remain quiet and to await orders from head-quarters; but some of his younger brothers went up with armed parties to Matela's assistance; and to avoid passing through Joel's country they crossed the Caledon River and went up through the Free State. A good deal of looting took place among the deserted villages, in which Jonathan's men were implicated. The Acting Resident Commissioner came to Leribe to inquire into the causes of this disturbance, and the case was adjudicated on by him. He was accompanied by Lerothodi Bereng and Setha, representatives of the Paramount Chief, with an armed force.

IV.—An attempt was made in March last, by the Headman Makotoko, to dispute the rights of Government to the reserve at Thlotse Heights. Jonathan disavowed his action, and the result of his raising the question was that the Government's claim to the land in question was confirmed by Jonathan; it having been originally given to the Government by the late Chief Molapo.

V.—Considerable jealousy exists between the two principal sons of the late Chief Lesaoana, the younger of whom, Seshope, lives in this district, while the elder, Peete, resides in the Berea district. Lesaoana, in his lifetime, resided in Leribe with the bulk of his followers, who, in his old age, were governed for him mainly by Seshophe, while Peete had charge of his immediate followers who lived with him in Berea district. Since his father's death, Peete has tried to exercise authority as his successor over the people living in this district, many of whom still acknowledge Seshophe, and the consequent bad feeling is likely to lead to disturbances in that part of the district before long.

VI. There appears to be some movement towards friendly intercourse between the Chiefs Jonathan and Joel, which should be encouraged, if possible, as it is the first indication of the kind which has showed itself for several years. On the other hand, some of the minor Chiefs in the district are trying to revive old

claims against one another, dating in some cases from the time of the Gun War (1880–81), which might better be allowed to die out.

VII.—Motsoeni has lately made another attempt to assert his claim to his father's old village in Joel's ward, threatening, in the presence of the Government Interpreter at Buthabuthe, to send his cattle over and take posession of the place in question. Any such unauthorised act might lead to a disturbance, as Joel is strongly opposed to the Buthabuthe line being interfered with.

Population.

The census was taken this year and the population was found to be nearly 48,000. This is slightly under what was previously estimated.

Education.

A report on the Government-aided schools in the district was sent in on the 25th instant.

Commercial.

Trade has not generally been brisk, on account of the European traders being undersold by the Arabs and Coolies, who were for some time selling goods under cost price. Their supporters, from Natal, have now interfered to prevent this, and many of the Arabs are leaving the country.

Grain appears to be plentiful, there having been no early frosts, and most of the crops having had time to ripen. Prices will probably be low this season in consequence.

Public Works.

In consequence of the unusually large rainfall since the 1st January the roads are much washed out, and very swampy in places, and it has been difficult, even with constant attention, to keep them in passible order.

New public offices are nearly completed at Thlotse Heights, where a public dispensary has also been built, and officers' quarters were finished early in the year. New quarters for the officers stationed at Buthabuthe are much needed, the present buildings being mostly of green bricks, and having suffered from the continual rain during the last six months.

Medical.

The report of the district medical officer is attached.

BASUTOLAND.

Police.

The police detachment stationed here is in an efficient state as to both discipline and equipment.

The lost stock report shows :—

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not Traced.	Recovered.
Horses - -	8	4	4	4
Cattle - -	28	8	20	8
Sheep - -	1	1	—	—

NOTE.—The sheep was slaughtered by herd boys, who were convicted and punished.

Crime.

The criminal cases tried in the Assistant Commissioner's Court during the year are as follows :—

Contravention of pass regulations - -	3
Theft - - - - -	8
Assault - - - - -	2
Resisting police - - -	1
Creating disturbance - - - -	2
Rescue of impounded stock - - -	2
Contravention of trading regulations - -	2
Store breaking - - - -	1
Breach of prison discipline - - -	2

Revenue.

As shown by the return attached, this year's revenue compares favourably with previous years, the amount of hut tax collected, 4,586*l.* 16*s.* 0*d.*, being more than the total revenue in all branches collected last year. Licenses show some falling off, owing, probably, to the wet season, hawkers being unable to cross the flooded rivers with their waggons.

Heads of revenue collected are as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax - - - -	4,586	16	0
Licenses - - - -	397	17	6
Fines - - - -	49	17	6
Special receipts - - -	166	16	6
Fees - - - -	3	4	6
Fees for registering marriages -	0	10	0
Fees for transfer of licenses -	1	7	6
	5,206	9	6

Passes

A return* of passes issued to natives during the year is attached.

Relations with Bordering States.

Our intercourse with the Orange Free State continues to be of a friendly nature. The Free State Border officials rendered valuable aid in tracing out cattle concealed in that territory during the disturbance between Joel and Matela, and generally they have manifested a wish to assist us when it has been in their power to do so.

(Signed) S. BARRETT,
Assistant Commissioner.

Leribe, 30th June 1891.

SIR, Leribe, June 30, 1891.

I HAVE the honour to report that the public health in this district has been good during the year. There has been no true epidemic fever as during the previous summer, a few cases only having made their appearance in camp and in the surrounding villages. This healthier state of the Thlotse Heights camp is probably due to the heavy rains, which have done much to diminish the amount of dirt and rubbish usually lying between natives' huts.

The number of patients having attended the public dispensary has been 3,101 during the past year, that is, from July 1890 to 30th June 1891.

About 10 per cent. of attendants were suffering from various venereal diseases, the most common being the syphilitic secondary sores, so-called mocaula, and gonorrhœa.

Gonorrhœa is very prevalent among the police force, half of the men suffering chronically from it.

Syphilis, though also prevalent in the district, seems to be less virulent, natives having of late been in the custom of getting treated at the dispensary, or buying the necessary drugs for the

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* Not printed.

same purpose, and thus greatly diminishing the danger of contagion. Children are more affected by it than adults, and though commonly inheriting the malady, they are undoubtedly the means of spreading it, a child getting mocaula from another and infecting the parents afterwards. Mocaula mostly spreads by the secondary sores.

Surgical cases are numerous, 161 cases having been operated during the year; 100 cases being minor ones, the remaining 61 requiring serious operations. The report on leprosy will follow.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. CASALIS,
Medical Officer.

The Assistant Commissioner,
Leribe.

ANNUAL REPORT upon that part of the LERIBE DISTRICT, called BUTHA BUTHE.

During the earlier months of the past official year the sub-district was in a very disturbed state. In July 1890 the feeling between Joel and Matela was more than usually unfriendly.

On the 5th of August Motsoeni sent his men to cut all the reeds in the reed-bed under Butha Buthe Station.

As half this reed-bed belongs to Joel there was a great deal of excitement, but no fighting took place.

After much trouble Motsoeni was made to bring back some of the reeds; but as only some five or six bundles were restored Joel was, and still is, very dissatisfied with the settlement. During August there was a good deal of trouble between the herd-boys of Joel and Matela in the Machachaneng, and about other matters up there. On the 28th of August the Acting Resident Commissioner, Mr. Lagden, accompanied by Mr. Barrett and myself, left for the Machachaneng to meet the President of the Free State, and Mr. Lagden and the President personally inspected the disputed boundary on our northern border.

During the early part of September the feeling between oe and Matela was growing more and more hostile, till on the 19th fighting broke out, and continued for some days, Matela being beaten, some seven or eight men killed, and many of his cattle taken by Joel. Various messengers arrived, sent by the Acting Resident Commissioner and the Paramount Chief, and further fighting was stopped. On October 1st Mr. Lagden and Lerothodi came up, a Pitso was held shortly afterwards, and on the fourth after hearing many statements Mr. Lagden gave his judgment. For a time there was, of course, a good deal of friction between all parties; this, however, has considerably lessened, and there has been no further outbreak.

During the year only one case has come under my notice in which a man was charged with practising witchcraft.

The hut tax for the sub-district has again exceeded that of the previous year by 28*l.*

This is a very small increase, but some of Joel's men have been quite unable to pay up to the present, as their villages and grain, as well as ploughs, were totally destroyed by Jonathan's people during the disturbances in September.

These people, however, have been ordered to pay as soon as they reap their crops.

Under other heads of revenue, the general traders' licences show an increase, but there has been a great falling off in the number of hawkers' licences taken out, due, I think, to the exceptionally bad weather we have had.

It has been very difficult to keep the roads in good order owing to the heavy rains. For a long time I was unable to get labour, and the roads in consequence got very bad. I have now a good party at work. There are four schools in the sub-district, one under the Church of England and three under the French Protestants; at present there are 152 pupils on the books.

My relations with the Free State officials on the border continue good, and they afford me all the help they can.

(Signed) W. BOXWELL,
Sub-Inspector.

MAFETENG.

Annual Report for the Year ended 30th June 1891.

I.—I entered upon the duties of Assistant Commissioner, Mafeteng District, on the 1st September 1891.

II.—Few matters of political importance affecting this district came under my notice until February 1891, when the young Chief Griffith Lerothodi was implicated in brandy smuggling from the Orange Free State, and an affray occurred between his messengers and a police patrol. Subsequently Griffith created a disturbance in Mafeteng village and several policemen sustained injuries while endeavouring to arrest the rioters. I at once reported the circumstance to the Resident Commissioner, who promptly came to Mafeteng and arranged for the arrest and trial of Griffith and his companions. The Resident Commissioner sentenced Griffith to 12 months' imprisonment with hard labour, and seven (7) of his followers, who were foremost in the disturbance, paid fines of five (5) head of cattle each. This action of Griffith (who is of high rank) might have led to serious complications between Government and the Basuto tribe if prompt measures had not been taken to enforce the law. Disputes exist between some Chiefs concerning rights to certain arable and grazing ground, but such matters are receiving attention, and will doubtless be satisfactorily arranged.

III.—Police patrols have been constantly on the border adjoining the Orange Free State, and every effort was made to suppress crime. The facilities offered to the Basuto for purchasing

BASUTOLAND.

spirituous liquor in the town of Wepener and at illicit canteens on the Free State border has been very marked during the past year and fifty-eight (58) persons were arrested and prosecuted in the Assistant Commissioner's Court for contravening the Basutoland Liquor Ordinance.

Lost or stolen stock traced into this district has in every case been recovered or the owners compensated.

IV.—Parties of labourers with practical overseers in charge have been employed repairing the roads, but on account of the almost incessant rainfall during the last five months the work has not progressed satisfactorily, and it has been impossible to do more than just keep the roads open for vehicle traffic.

The public offices have been thoroughly renovated and some additional accommodation built.

The village fountain was covered in, a windlass erected, and the water is now pure and good.

The outside of the Residency underwent general repair, and a stone wall enclosing the grounds is now completed.

A hospital hut for the accommodation of patients has been erected and a cottage for the Resident Medical Officer is authorised.

Some necessary repairs were done to the police stables.

V.—The free dispensary was well attended and the medical work in this district is most satisfactory.

I attach a report from the medical officer.

VI.—There are seventeen (17) general trading stations in Mafeteng District. Traders complain that business has not been brisk when compared with the previous year's transactions, but this is probably more due to keen competition than want of money amongst the Basuto.

Good seed wheat has been distributed.

The following were the average prices paid for produce and stock during the year :—

Mealies	8*s.*	per muid
Kaffir corn	12*s.* 6*d.*	„
Wheat	13*s.* 6*d.*	„
Barley	7*s.*	„
Oats	7*s.*	„
Basuto tobacco	6*d.*	per lb.
Wool, F.G.	4½*d.*	„
Hides (S. D.)	3*d.*	„
do. wet	1½*d.*	„
Mohair	5*d.*	„
Horned cattle (average)	80*s.*	each
Sheep and goats („)	10*s.*	„

Fair prices have also been paid for Basuto ponies.

Very little Kafir corn was reaped, but the other grain crops were good, although a considerable quantity of wheat was damaged by rain.

VII.—The police detachment under my command continues to perform excellent service. The total strength is, viz.:—

1 Sub-inspector.
1 Native officer.
3 European constables.
33 Rank and file.

VIII.—The census return of Mafeteng district taken last April showed a population of 40,908 persons, 9,450 occupied dwellings, 13,002 horses, 64,198 horned cattle, 279 waggons and 2,144 ploughs.

IX.—Religious and educational work continues to make satisfactory progress under the superintendence of the clergymen of the various missionary societies.

Thirty (30) missionary schools, one Government school, and one undenominational school were inspected, and I have furnished a separate report concerning them.

X.—The following civil and criminal cases were heard in the Assistant Commissioner's Court:—

Civil actions - - - -	2
Contravening Sec. VII. Trading Regulations Liquor Ordinance - - - -	58
Resisting police - - - -	9
Assault - - - - -	2
Forgery - - - - -	1
Thefts - - - - -	10

XI.—The revenue for the year amounted to 3,839*l.* 8*s.* 3*d.*, and shows an increase of 508*l.* 14*s.* on the receipts for 1889–90.

(Signed) T. P. KENNAN,
Assistant Commissioner,
Mafeteng.

Revenue.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Hut tax - - - -	3,503	0	0
Fines - - - -	150	10	0
Licenses - - - -	174	0	0
Fees - - - -	4	12	0
Miscellaneous - - -	7	6	3
	3,839	8	3

BASUTOLAND.

Through the sudden illness of the medical officer lately at Mafeteng the medical report of that district is unavoidably postponed, and will be sent as soon as possible.

G. Y. LAGDEN.

Mafeteng, Basutoland,
June 24, 1891.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to report that during the year ending the 30th June 1891 the total number of cases attended at the Mafeteng Government dispensary amounted to 7,616, made up as follows:

New cases - - - -	4,150
Old cases - - - -	2,316
Hospital cases - - - -	1,150
Total number of attendances. - -	7,616

Of the 4,150 new cases, syphilis is responsible for 549 and gonorrhæa for 98. From this it will be seen that about one case in every seven was of a venereal nature. The figures speak for themselves. Of the remaining cases, dyspepsia accounts for 563, and rheumatism and bronchitis figure frequently, especially during the winter months.

The comparative absence of phthisis pulmonalis is very remarkable, and testifies to the suitability of the climate for this complaint. Several epidemics of typhoid fever of a modified type have broken out at the native villages during the year. The cause, I think, is in almost every case a polluted water supply. A few cases of diphtheria which have been seen have probably originated in the same way.

The necessity for more suitable hospital accommodation has been much felt. The two rooms now nearly completed will, I hope, meet our wants in this respect.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. M. EATON,
Medical Officer, Mafeteng.

Report for the Year ended 30th June 1891. BASUTOLAND.

Office of the Assistant Commissioner,
Maseru, July 4, 1891.

No events of any political importance have occurred during the past year.

I have pleasure in reporting that all the Chiefs continue to render me substantial assistance when called upon, especially in the matter of tracing stock stolen from the neighbouring territories and in arresting and bringing the thieves to justice. Indeed in several cases stock has been recovered in Basutoland before any report of the loss has been made at this office.

Relations with the neighbouring Free State authorities are most satisfactory, and we cordially co-operate to preserve order along the border.

Very few cases of crime have come to my notice. Theft from the Free State seems to be at a minimum, and most of the stock traced to Basutoland has been recovered. Two cases of homicide were reported during the year; in the one instance the accused unfortunately escaped before he could be arrested.

The following cases were tried in this Court:—

Theft - - - - -	7
Assault - - - - -	2
Indecent assault - - - -	1
Contravention of trading regulations - -	1

The Kafir corn crop in this district was attacked at an early stage by a blight and almost entirely destroyed; however, the natives have reaped a plentiful harvest of mealies, so no famine need be feared.

Prices realised for produce have not been as high as those of the preceding year.

Native labour has been plentiful in the country. There has, however, been a considerable decrease in the number of labourers leaving the territory as compared with the year 1889–90.

Passes have been issued to 2,792 men to leave Basutoland in search of work, and 3,225 for other purposes.

Trade has been good, and seven new general traders' licences have been issued. There are now 23 trading stations in this district.

Twenty-two hawkers' licences were issued.

All the waggon roads in the district are in very bad order owing to the abnormal rainfall, which has continued far into the winter, and until the weather becomes settled we cannot hope to be able to thoroughly repair them.

The schools have all been visited by Government officers and show satisfactory progress.

The population of the district, as shown by the census taken in April last, is 45,402 souls.

BASUTOLAND.

The general revenue of the district shows an increase over that of 1889–90 of 1,436*l.* 13*s.* 1*d.* Under the head hut tax there is an increase of 465*l.* Arrear hut tax paid amounted to 621*l.*

The following are the amounts paid under the various heads:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Hut tax - - - -	4,033	0	0
Licenses - - - -	282	2	6
Fines - - - -	413	7	0
Fees - - - -	39	0	0
Special receipts - - -	165	16	7
Ferry dues - - -	543	17	6
Postal revenue - - -	741	18	4
Sale of unclaimed stock - -	14	0	0
	6,233	1	11

I attach the report of the medical officer.

(Signed) F. ENRAGHT MOONY,
Acting Assistant Commissioner.

SIR, Maseru, June 30, 1891.

I HAVE the honour to report that the health of this district has been good during the preceding year. There have been no epidemics and very few cases of zymotic disease. The number of attendances at the hospital was 7,530 compared with 5,397 last year, showing an increase of over 2,000. 6,430 were new cases. Owing to the heavy rains and cold the attendance fell off towards the end of the year.

The number of cases of mocaula treated at the dispensary was 705 compared with 682 last year, the respective percentages being 10 and 12 of the total number of all cases seen at the dispensary, showing a decrease if anything, and the disease was of a milder form. There were only 22 cases of tertiary syphilis and 14 of phthisis compared with 45 ast year.

During the summer months there were a great many cases of ophthalmia, and in the last few months a few mild cases of varicella.

The new hospital and dispensary have proved a great gain both to the patients and medical officer in charge. There were 44 in-patients during the year, 27 dismissed cured, 11 improved, 3 in *statu quo,* and 3 remain in hospital.

With regard to leprosy, I consider that the disease is increasing and further measures should be adopted to check its progress and stamp it out. There were 12 cases which attended the dispensary from Maseru district, while I have heard of several others. In the Berea district I saw 25 cases personally. I think that the

exact number and locality of every case in each district should be ascertained, and that all cases which can be moved be brought to some quarantined location within a reasonable distance of the medical officer and there isolated and kept under supervision, while all cases which cannot be moved a great distance be isolated from their neighbours, as is already done in many instances by the Basuto, especially on being informed of the contagious and loathsome character of the disease. The majority of cases I have seen have been spread by natives who had contracted the disease in the Cape Colony or Free State.

The health of the prisoners in the gaol has been good. There was one death of a prisoner from cerebral disease.

I have, &c.

(Signed) S. RADFORD SAVAGE, M.B., &c.,
Medical Officer.

The Acting Resident Commissioner,
Basutoland.

ANNUAL REPORT.

Cornet Spruit District, June 1891.

I.—On the whole the political position of the district may be considered fairly satisfactory. With but few exceptions peace and quietness have been maintained during the past year.

On the 11th of August last the Chief Makhube died, and is succeeded by his eldest son Ntabanyane, who has given satisfaction in every way.

During the same month a dispute arose in the Bamohali ward as to the right of lands between the Chiefs Mako Sekake and Lebona, in which some huts were burned by the latter; the affair was settled by the head of the clan, the Chief Molomo. On the 27th of August a quarrel of rather a serious nature occurred in the Batang ward between the houses of the Chiefs Mokhle and Monyakhe, in which guns were used, one man being killed and one slightly wounded, and two horses shot. This quarrel was also over the right of certain lands. The matter was dealt with by the Acting Resident Commissioner, Mr. G. Y. Lagden, on the 27th of September, the Paramount Chief Letsie being represented by the Chiefs Lerothodi and Setha Mateta.

It was shown that both the Chiefs Mokhele and Matletle had acted indiscreetly and illegally.

The Chief Mokhele was fined 120 head of cattle and the Chief Matletle Monyakhe 80 head of cattle. The Chief Lerothodi was requested by the Acting Resident Commissioner to inquire into and settle the land dispute.

On the 20th of October the Batang Chiefs and principal headmen assembled at this office, and the Acting Resident Commissioner's

BASUTOLAND.

judgment was read to them publicly, with which all appeared satisfied, and the ward has since been quiet.

On the 21st of October Sub-Inspector Boyes returned from the Berea district, where he had been on temporary duty since the middle of August.

On the 19th of November a combined court was held at Makebinyane's by the Assistant Commissioners of Mafeteng and Mohales Hoek and the Chief Lerothodi, Chief Seiso and Setha Matete being also present; the object of the court was to inquire into a quarrel among the Bamohali.

The case was settled and the guilty parties fined. This was also a dispute over lands. A full report of the proceedings was sent in.

On the 21st of November the Chiefs Lerothodi, and Seiso, and Setha Matete called a Pitso of the Bamohali at Mphurane to discuss the question of a boundary line between the Chiefs Mako Sekake and Lebona, when the Chief Lerothodi declared that no line was necessary as it would only give rise to quarrelling in the future. I was present at the Pitso and concurred in what was done.

In the same month it was reported that small-pox had broken out in the Chief Ntabanyane's ward. Dr. Young was sent out, and reported one case, which he treated successfully, and the disease did not spread.

On the 10th of December a pont was launched on the Cornet Spruit at Meyer's drift, the main entrance to the district from the Orange Free State; it has proved a great boon to the trading and travelling public.

In February the Chief Thamane, one of the Baphuti Chiefs, died, and is succeeded by his brother Mokhoele.

During the months of April and May minor disputes occurred and were settled locally.

II.—Relations with the neighbouring States continue on a favourable footing.

Smuggling has apparently greatly diminished, especially the illicit sale of liquor, which has greatly diminished the committal of crime.

III.—A census of the territory was taken last April, the returns for this district showing a population of 34,391 natives, 73 European or white.

IV.—The season since last October has been an exceptionally wet one. The crops have been fairly good. Wheat was abundant, and there was an average crop of Kaffir corn and mealies, the latter crops were very good in the mountains. There is a ready sale for all kinds of grain and fair prices are obtained.

V.—Education and religion are making fair progress. There are 11 aided schools in this district, all of which lately have been inspected and reported upon. These schools are all in connexion with the Paris Evangelical Mission Society.

The Church of England services are conducted by a resident clergyman, the Rev. M. A. Reading, who holds services in the court room at this station, and in the native church at the Chief

Potsane's village; he also pays periodical visits to Mafeteng and Quthing, where he also holds services.

VI. Trade in the district is steadily increasing, and the traders are apparently doing well, money being more plentiful than usual. The whole of the taxes in the district have been paid in coin.

General trading stations - - -	15
Hawkers' licenses - - - -	7
Dam licenses - - - -	2

VII.—The free dispensary has been much appreciated, and done a great deal to improve the state of the public health. Dr. Young resigned in January, and has been succeeded by Dr. Long, from Mafeteng, who finds the work so much increased that a larger dispensary has been asked for.

VIII.—Only two cases of theft have been tried during the past year, and as there have been frequent patrols, this fact speaks well for the honesty of the district.

IX.—A large number of natives have obtained passes to proceed to the gold fields and diamond fields as will be seen from the return of passes* issued annexed hereto.

Some difficulty has been experienced in getting labourers for road work, the natives refusing the usual 1*s.* a day and demanding 1*s.* 6*d.* a day.

X.—Owing to the continuous rains since October last the roads in the district are much washed. Road parties are at present at work, and I hope to have the roads in good repair very shortly. The pont on the Cornet Spruit which was launched in December last has been continually at work up to the present, and has been most useful to traffic.

XI—*Revenue.*

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Hut tax - - - -	2,933	0	0
Licenses - - - -	156	7	6
Fines and fees - - -	8	12	6
Miscellaneous - - -	113	10	9
Total -	3,211	10	9

(Signed) J. W. BOWKER,
Mohales Hoek, 10 July 1891. Assistant Commissioner.

* Not printed.

BASUTOLAND.

Office of the Assistant Commissioner of Quthing,
June 30, 1891.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit my report on the affairs of this district for the year 1890–91.

On the 1st September 1890, Mr. Kennan handed over the district to me by order of the Acting Resident Commissioner. Since the report furnished by Mr. Kennan last year nothing of political importance has occurred in Quthing.

In the latter end of May a proposal was made by the Cape Colonial Government to build a fence on the border between Quthing and Barkly East, with a view to prevent stock thefts. I have furnished you already with my report on the subject.

Shortly after Christmas an epidemic broke out among the cattle of this district, which caused a considerable mortality among them. The disease had been generally taken to be that known as "Red Water."

Owing to this outbreak the Colonial Government caused a portion of Herschel District to be placed in quarantine, with a view to preventing infected cattle from entering or leaving it.

This quarantine, which virtually during the time it was enforced cut Quthing District off from its market at Aliwal North, caused a good deal of annoyance and loss to the traders resident here.

The rainfall registered at Moyeni for the year has been exceptionally heavy, amounting approximately to 43 inches.

The Orange River has been impassable during nearly the whole year, and the Pont at Siaka Drift has proved a great boon to travellers.

The Ongeluk's Nek Road has been further advanced some distance, and has now nearly reached the point where after crossing the Quthing River it will ascend the main range. A portion of the road constructed was through difficult country.

The transport roads, I regret to say, have throughout the year been severely damaged by the heavy rains referred to above, one or more road parties have been continually engaged in repairing them, and they are now in fair order.

The wet weather has also caused much damage to crops, especially in the upper portions of the district. I estimate that the district will average considerably under the usual grain crop.

The current prices at present are:—

Wheat - - - -	12*s.* to 14*s.*	per muid.
Mealies - - - -	3*s.* to 5*s.*	„
Kafir corn - - -	6*s.* to 8*s.*	„

Stock is fetching fair prices.

There are at present ten French Mission Schools in this district receiving Government aid, all of which have been inspected lately. My report has already been forwarded to you.

A Government night school has been opened in Moyeni Court House for men and boys living on or near the Government Reserve, and it has hitherto been attended with success.

There are eight trading stations in the district, and an application for a ninth is at present under consideration.

The following civil and criminal cases have been heard during the year in the Assistant Commissioner's Court.

Divorce	3
Ordinary civil	1
Theft	4
Assault	1
Contravention of pass regulation	1

The detachment of police stationed in Quthing continues effective, and consists of:—

1 European sub-inspector.
2 „ constables.
30 native non-commissioned officers and men, all of whom are mounted.

The total revenue collected in the district during the year amounted to 2,007*l.* 2*s.* 3*d.*, of which 1,631*l.* was hut tax.

During March and April a census of the population of the district was taken. The returns showed that the population of the district amounted to 19,500 souls, the sexes being almost equally divided.

During the first half of the year a free dispensary was held once a fortnight. In January, however, Dr. Young having resigned the dispensary was closed until the commencement of June, when it was re-opened by Dr. Long, whose report I attach hereto.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. WROUGHTON.
Acting Assistant Commissioner.

Resident Commissioner,
Basutoland.

Revenue.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Hut tax	1,631	0	0
Licenses	86	0	0
Special receipts	288	3	9
Fees	1	18	6
Total	2,007	2	3

BASUTOLAND.

SIR, Moyeni, July 2, 1891.

I HAVE the honour herewith to report on the medical work of this station. I regret that owing to the dispensary having been closed so long and only re-opened at the beginning of June 1891 there is but little work to report upon. The dispensary was open during four days in June, and 86 patients received attendance and medicine. 32 of these were surgical cases (including 12 cases of syphilis and five of other venereal diseases) the remainder being medical cases (mostly slight ailments).

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD C. LONG,
Medical Officer.

The Assistant Commissioner,
Moyeni.

Enclosure 2 in No. 1.

Sir H. B. LOCH to Sir M. CLARKE.

Government House, Cape Town,
July 31, 1891.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 21st instant, reporting on the progress made by the territory under your administration during the past year.

I have read this report with much pleasure, and I desire that you will express to Mr. Lagden and your officers my high sense of the good service rendered by them.

I desire also that you will convey to the missionaries of all denominations my appreciation of the valuable services they have rendered to the Basuto people.

I notice with regret that leprosy is spreading, and I suggest that you should consider with the Paramount Chief and your medical officers the best means for securing isolation of these cases.

The inter-tribal quarrels amongst the Chiefs are a matter of regret, and I desire that you will inform the Chiefs that whilst I am glad to learn that the patriotism and loyalty of the superior Chiefs has prevented serious collision, I regret that these quarrels should exist and that the chiefs and rulers whose duty it is to set an example to the people should display a disposition to take the law into their own hands.

The courts are open, and the Chiefs should be the first to show an example to their followers by seeking and accepting a judicial decision of their disputes.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY B. LOCH,
Governor and High Commissioner.

His Honour
The Resident Commissioner,
Basutoland.

No. 2.

Sir H. B. LOCH to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, Cape Town,
August 3, 1891.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit, for your Lordship's information, the enclosed despatch from the Resident Commissioner of Basutoland containing his report on the subject of education in that territory for the year ended 30th June last.

I would observe with reference to the last paragraph of Sir Marshall Clarke's despatch that arrangements have been made by which an inspection of the schools in Basutoland will be undertaken in December next by the Rev. Canon Woodroofe, one of the staff of school inspectors in the Cape Colony.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY B. LOCH,
Governor and High Commissioner.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 2.

RESIDENT COMMISSIONER, Basutoland, to His Excellency HIGH COMMISSIONER.

Resident Commissioner's Office, Basutoland,
July 21, 1891.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit the following report on the subject of education in Basutoland for the year ended 30th June 1891.

The whole of the education, with the exception of the undenominational schools, is under the supervision of missionaries attached to the various societies established in Basutoland.

2. The distribution of the Government grants in aid of schools is as follows:—

	£
Paris Evangelical Mission Society -	2,550
Roman Catholic - - - -	475
English Church of South Africa - -	179
Undenominational - - -	83
Industrial training outside Basutoland -	127

The total number of schools in Basutoland is 115; of these, 101 belong to the Paris Evangelical Mission Society, seven to the Roman Catholic, five to the Church of South Africa.

BASUOTLAND.

The amounts granted by Government are proportioned to the number of pupils and the education offered.

3. In the year under report there appear 6,932 on the nominal attendance roll, as against 6,442 last year. The mean average attendance was 4,560 against 4,245 last year.

4. The education offered appears suitable to the wants of the people. The general wish expressed by the parents that their children should be taught English is complied with in the majority of schools.

At the missionary centres a higher standard of education is offered than elsewhere; schools at such centres are either taught by members of the mission, or are under continuous European superintendence. The training school at Morija, the head-station of the Paris Evangelical Mission Society, offers a sound English and Sesuto education. The staff is composed of well-qualified Europeans, whose success is testified to by the results of the Cape Colonial test examinations at which Basutoland candidates are admitted.

This institution provides native teachers for the Society's schools throughout Basutoland.

5. There is a growing desire for instruction in trades which Government is anxious as far as possibly to satisfy.

At the school of the Paris Evangelical Mission Society at Quthing 23 pupils are taught stone-cutting, brickmaking, building and carpentry. At Morija 17 boys are taught printing and book-binding. In the school of the same society at Thaba Bosigo 33 girls receive instruction in household duties, washing and needle-work. Fair progress during the year is reported.

The industrial school recently established by Bishop Gaughran at Roma has experienced difficulties which appear inseparable from the beginning of such undertakings, but it now appears fairly started, and will, I have no doubt, prove of value to the country.

Instruction is given in stone-cutting, building, carpentry, turning, shoemaking, and tailoring. The girls' school at Roma under the exclusive management of the sisterhood is very interesting; girls are taught, in addition to the usual subjects, carding, spinning, weaving, and dressmaking.

Satisfactory accounts are received of 16 boys placed by Government to learn trades at the Lovedale Institute, Cape Colony, and at the Trappist Monastery in Natal.

6. Schools receiving Government aid are from time to time inspected by Government officers, who examine the pupils, check the attendance rolls, and at the end of each year submit reports from their various districts. The reports this year are on the whole very satisfactory.

7. Owing to exceptional stress of work in its Educational Department the Cape Colonial Government has been so far unable

to afford us the loan of a qualified school inspector as suggested by the Secretary of State. An independent opinion on the work which is being done, and the system in operation, would be alike appreciated by the Government and the societies.

I have, &c.

(Signed) M. CLARKE,
Resident Commissioner.

His Excellency
The High Commissioner
&c. &c. &c.,
Cape Town.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

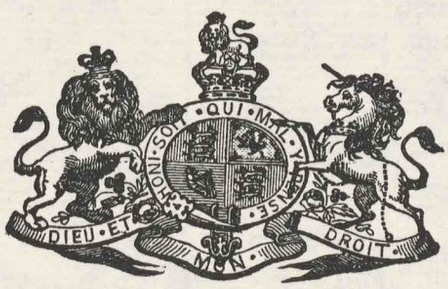
No. 39.

BERMUDA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1891.

(For Report for 1890, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 8.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
May 1892.



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1892.

[C.—6563.-23.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
4	Victoria	1889
5	Newfoundland	"
6	British New Guinea	1889–90
7	St. Vincent	1890
8	Bermuda	"
9	Leeward Islands	1889
10	St. Lucia	1890
11	Bahamas	"
12	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
13	Gibraltar	"
14	Zululand	"
15	Sierra Leone	"
16	Barbados	"
17	Falkland Islands	"
18	Labuan	"
19	British Honduras	"
20	Basutoland	1890–91
21	Trinidad and Tobago	1890
22	Leeward Islands	"
23	Grenada	"
24	Straits Settlements	"
25	British Guiana	"
26	St. Helena	"
27	Mauritius	"
28	Gambia	"
29	Hong Kong	"
30	Ceylon	1889
31	Lagos	"
32	Lagos	1890
33	Ceylon	"
34	Newfoundland	"
35	Jamaica	1889–91
36	Victoria	1890
37	British New Guinea	1890–91
38	St. Vincent	1891

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.

No. 39.

BERMUDA.

[For Report for 1890, *see* Colonial Report [Annual], No. 8.]

Governor NEWDEGATE to LORD KNUTSFORD.

MY LORD, Bermuda, March 31, 1892.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the report on the annual Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1891, which has been prepared by Mr. Alison, the Colonial Secretary.

2. The books are completed with the exception of binding, and will be forwarded at an early date.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDW. N. NEWDEGATE,
Lieut.-General,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hamilton,
Bermuda, March 28, 1892.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit to your Excellency the following report on the Blue Book for the year 1891 :—

Finance.

2. The revenue raised during the year amounted to 33,531*l.* against an expenditure of 32,029*l.*, the excess of revenue over expenditure thus being 1,502*l.* Compared with 1890 the revenue shows an increase of 1,137*l.*, and the expenditure an increase o 1,759*l.* In the revenue and expenditure returns the amounts raised by loan and expended during the year are not included, but a sum of 1,120*l.* applied in reduction of the public debt is included in the expenditure returns.

71640. Wt. 19750.

BERMUDA.

3. The following tables compare the revenue and expenditure for 1891 with that of 1890:—

Revenue.

	Customs.	Other Receipts.	Total.
	£	£	£
1890 - - - -	27,048	5,346	32,394
1891 - - - -	27,839	5,692	33,531
Increase - - -	791	346	1,137

Expenditure.

	Personal Emoluments.	Other charges.	Total.
	£	£	£
1890 - - - -	15,683	14,587	30,270
1891 - - - -	15,447	16,582	32,029
Increase - - -	—	1,995	1,759
Decrease - - -	236	—	—

The revenue raised in 1891 shows, as above stated, an increase compared with 1890 of over 1,750*l.*, whilst 1890 showed an increase compared with 1889 of nearly 2,500*l.* The prosperity in the years 1890 and 1891 indicated by these figures is due nearly entirely to the following causes, the remunerative prices obtained during the last two years in the New York Market for the agricultural products of these islands, the presence during the greater part of these years of an additional battalion of infantry, and the increasing popularity of these islands as a place of winter resort for the people of the United States and Canada.

The ordinary expenditure in 1891 was less than that of the preceding year, but payments made for liabilities incurred in previous years were considerably larger, 620*l.*, more than in 1890, being devoted to the repayment of the public debt, and payments, which amounted to about 1,370*l.*, were made to the Washington and London Post Offices on account of transit charges incurred during the preceding three years on Bermuda mails.

Special expenditure, amounting to about 450*l.*, had also to be incurred in connection with the census.

Compared with 1890 the following were the principal differences shown in the disbursements:—

	£
Payment of public debt, an increase of -	620
Legislative „ -	504
Miscellaneous payments „ -	1,248
Post Office „ -	1,095
Whilst in the Public Works Office there was a decrease of - - - -	804
Annuities and gratuities, a decrease of -	160
Judicial „ -	481
Police „ -	101
Public health „ -	187

4. The returns of Imperial expenditure are as follows:—

	£
Governor's salary - - -	2,200
Military establishments - - -	104,465

Compared with the preceding year the latter return shows an increase of 4,089*l.*

The expenditure of the naval establishments is not returned.

Public Debt.

5. Though 1,120*l.* was paid off during the year, the public debt has increased from 7,620*l.* to 8,600*l.* This is due to the issue of the remainder of the debentures authorised to be raised for the purpose of a new Government House.

The public debt at the end of 1891 was made up as follows:—

	£
Causeway debentures - - -	1,000
New Government House debentures -	7,600

The average rate of interest on these loans is 4½ per cent.

Legislation.

6. There was a special session of the Colonial Parliament, which commenced on the 14th January and lasted about a fortnight. During that period one Act was passed, namely, "An "Act to revise the Liquor License Acts, 1880 and 1882".

During the regular session, which commenced on the 28th May, and was carried on over the end of the year, 23 Acts were passed.

Of these Acts, the only one of much importance was:—

(No. 18.) "An Act for the Improvement of the Channels leading to Hamilton Harbour."

By this measure the Colonial Government is authorised to raise a loan of 40,000*l.* for the purpose of improving the channels leading from Grassy Bay to Hamilton Harbour, by straightening and

BERMUDA.

deepening them so as to obtain a depth of 20 feet at mean low water.

During the regular session 22 Resolves were passed appropriating 7,436*l.* for services not otherwise provided for by law.

Civil Establishment.

7. His Excellency the Governor was absent on leave from the 6th August to 11th October, and Colonel Samuel Pym, R.A., the senior military officer then in the Command, administered the Government during that period. The Governor also left the Colony on the 7th December for the purpose of inspecting Her Majesty's Forces in the West Indies, and had not returned on the 31st December last. Colonel Pym, on this occasion, acted as the Governor's Deputy, in accordance with the provisions contained in certain Letters Patent, dated the 10th January 1891.

Mr. Alison, Colonial Secretary and Registrar General, was absent on leave from the 2nd April to the 25th October. Mr. James Tucker, C.M.G., acted as Colonial Secretary during that period, and Mr. Allan F. Smith, clerk in the Colonial Secretary's Office, took over the duties of the Registrar-General.

Dr. Henry J. Hinson, who had been connected with the Lunatic Asylum for upwards of 42 years, was compelled, owing to failing health, to resign his appointment as medical superintendent of that institution on the 19th November, and Dr. Eldon Harvey was on that date appointed to fill the vacancy. The Legislature granted to Dr. Hinson on his retirement a gratuity of 300*l.*

Imports.

8. The total value of the imports in 1891 was 325,976*l.*, showing an increase compared with 1890 of 17,960*l.* and with 1889 of 53,373*l.*

The value of the imports from the United Kingdom and other countries respectively in 1890 and 1891 is shown in the following table:—

	1890.	1891.
	£	£
United Kingdom - - -	92,739	85,775
British North America - -	12,881	22,031
Other British Colonies - -	12,583	8,511
United States of America - -	188,975	205,906
Other countries - - -	838	3,753
Totals - - -	308,016	325,976

The imports from the United Kingdom in 1891 consisted principally of clothing valued at 3,733*l.*, cotton, woollen, and silk goods at 29,874*l.*, jewellery and plated ware at 1,205*l.*, leather manufacturers at 2,506*l.*, oilmen's stores at 4,520*l.*, malt liquor at 19,738*l.*, whisky at 1,610*l.*, and wine at 3,199*l.*

The imports from the United States and British North America consisted principally of food supplies, lumber, and box material, glass ware and leather manufactures.

Exports.

9. The value of the exports amounted to 129,803*l.* Compared with 1890 this shows a decrease of 7,723*l.*, but with 1889 an increase of no less than 69,414*l.*

The following table shows the value of the exports to the United Kingdom and other countries respectively in 1890 and 1891:—

	1890.	1891.
	£	£
United Kingdom - - - -	2,038	1,794
British Colonies - - - -	4,286	3,457
United States of America - - -	130,928	123,259
Other countries - - - -	274	1,293
Total - - -	137,526	129,803

The exports of these islands consist almost entirely of potatoes, onions, and lily bulbs shipped to New York in the months of April and May.

The crop season in 1891 was a good one, the exports being somewhat larger than in the previous year, but a fall in the price of onions caused the slight decrease shown in the value of the exports.

Small quantities of arrowroot, tomatoes, cut flowers, and beets are also exported.

Population and Public Health.

10. The census taken on the 5th of April last showed that the resident civil population of these islands on that date consisted of 15,013 persons, the white population numbering 5,690 (2,739

BERMUDA.

males and 2,951 females), the coloured 9,323 (4,297 males and 5,026 females).

The Registrar-General in his annual report for the year deduces, from a comparison of the census returns of 1881 and 1891 with the returns of births and deaths, between those dates, that there was an excess of immigration over emigration in the case of the white population during the past intercensal period amounting in round numbers to 100, this excess being due principally to the immigration of Portuguese from the Azores and Madeira.

In the case of the coloured population, however, there appears to have been a loss of 340 by emigration.

The birth rate was 33·3 and the death rate 20·7 per 1,000. The infants registered as born out of wedlock numbered 86 and were in the proportion of 14·6 to 100 births. Of these births four were white and 82 coloured. The proportion of deaths of infants in the first year of life to registered living births, or the infantile mortality, was 16·5 per 100.

The average strength of the Imperial forces in Bermuda in 1891 was 3,076, and the deaths were 12, the rate of mortality thus being only 3·9 per 1,000. Of these deaths five were due to enteric fever and three to drowning.

The Senior Medical Officer of the military forces in the command reports that the general health of the troops has been very good. Average strength of garrison, 1,601; number of admissions to hospital, 773; ratio of admissions per 1,000 of strength, 482·8; number of deaths, 5, all of which were due to enteric fever. Average daily sick, 40·69; average sick time to each soldier, 9·28 days; average duration of each case of sickness, 19·21 days; average strength of officers, 70; cases of sickness, 19; no deaths.

The Principal Naval Medical Officer reports that the average daily strength of the naval forces at Bermuda during the year 1891, corrected for the time that each ship remained in port, was 1,475; an increase of 100 as compared with the previous 12 months. This includes 483 men employed in the dockyard, and 283 borne on the books of H.M.S. "Terror."

The number of cases of disease and injury coming under treatment was 779; a decrease compared with the previous year, which would have been larger but for the epidemic of influenza which prevailed in the midsummer quarter.

Ecclesiastical Returns.

11. The following table shows the numbers belonging to the several religious denominations in the Colony, taken from the census of 1891, and the accommodation and average attendance in the respective churches and chapels of each denomination taken

from the ecclesiastical returns, which are based upon information furnished by the ministers of the respective churches:—

Denominations.	Numbers according to Census.	Accommodation in Churches.	Average Attendance.
Church of England - - -	10,627	5,400	3,451
Presbyterian - - - -	624	710	400
Wesleyan Methodists - -	1,516	3,185	1,750
Roman Catholic - - -	565	400	400
African Methodist Episcopal - -	1,292	2,225	1,575
Reformed Church of England - -	139	300	100
All other denominations - -	250	—	—
Totals - - -	15,013	12,220	7,676

The amount of assistance granted to the different denominations out of the public funds is based on the returns obtained by the census, 10*l.* being allowed for every 100 persons in professed connexion with the respective denominations.

Criminal Statistics.

12. The number of offences reported to the police or magistrates during the year was 377, a decrease compared with 1890 of 46 and with 1889 of 123.

The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates was 341, compared with 387 in 1890, and 475 in 1889.

The number of cases tried in the superior courts during the year was 14, and the convictions numbered 9; of these six were for offences against the person, and three for offences against property.

In 1890 the number of cases tried in the superior courts was 17, and the convictions numbered 13. In 1889 the number of cases tried was 30, and the convictions numbered 21.

Gaols and Prisoners.

13. The number of persons confined in the gaols in 1891 was 84 (78 men and 6 women); of these 32 were committed for safe custody till trial or for want of security, and 52 for purposes of penal imprisonment.

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The daily average number in prison was 24·75. The daily average on the sick list was 8·86.

Lunatic Asylum.

14. Six patients (four males and two females) were admitted into the asylum during the year, and five (all females) were discharged. There were no deaths.

Education.

15. The Inspector of Schools gives the following returns:—22 aided primary schools; 1,206 scholars (607 boys and 599 girls). School fees, 560*l.*; Government contributions, 997*l.* The secondary aided schools numbered two, receiving between them Government contributions amounting to 83*l.* and school fees amounting to 196*l.* The number of scholars in these schools numbered 66; of these 44 were boys and 22 girls.

There are besides four other secondary schools receiving no Government aid, two of which are for boys and two for girls exclusively, and accommodate amongst them 60 boys and 100 girls. From one of the boys' schools (the Saltus Grammar School) two boys successfully matriculated at the London University in June last.

Government House.

16. A new Government House is now being built, and it is expected that it will be ready for occupation in June next. Under the Act providing for the erection of this house the old Government House will be pulled down when this new building is completed.

The new building contains ample accommodation. The reception rooms, three in number, measure respectively 51′ × 22′ 6″, 36′ × 22′ 6″, and 25′ × 18′.

There are 11 family bedrooms and three dressing-rooms, and 11 servants' bedrooms.

It is estimated that the building when completed will have cost over 13,700*l.*

Meteorological observations.

17. The returns from the observatory at Prospect Camp, which is 151 feet above the sea level, show as follows:—

Mean atmospheric pressure for the year, 30·115 inches; mean temperature of the air, 69·4°; mean relative humidity, 80·9 per cent.; mean hourly velocity of the wind, 9·6 miles; total amount of rainfall, 75·09 inches; difference of rainfall from average of past 13 years, + 18·84. Rain fell on 159 days.

Statistical Returns.

18. The usual table prepared for the Board of Trade statistics is given below :—

Population.

——	Males.	Females.	Total.
1890 - - -	7,767	8,117	15,884
1891 - - -	7,106	8,017	15,123

NOTE.—The above figures for 1890 were estimated from the census of 1881, in which were included persons only temporarily resident here and no allowance being made for emigration. The figures for 1891 are based on the census of that year.

——	1890.	1891.
	£	£
Gross amount of public revenue - - -	32,394	33,531
Gross amount of public expenditure - -	30,270	32,029
Amount of expenditure from loans on public works	—	2,448
Customs revenue - - - - -	27,048	27,839
Public debt - - - - -	7,620	8,600
	Tons.	Tons.
Total tonnage of vessels entered and cleared -	307,506	287,694
Tonnage of British vessels entered and cleared -	265,944	242,530
Tonnage of foreign vessels entered and cleared -	41,562	45,164
Tonnage of sailing vessels entered and cleared -	40,539	38,619
Tonnage of steam vessels entered and cleared -	266,967	249,075
	£	£
Value of total imports - - - -	308,016	325,976
Value of imports from the United Kingdom -	92,739	85,775
Value of total exports - - - -	137,526	129,803
Value of total exports to the United Kingdom -	2,038	1,794

I have, &c.
(Signed) ARCHIBALD ALISON,
Colonial Secretary

To His Excellency
Lieut.-General Edward Newdigate Newdegate, C.B.,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief,
Bermuda.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

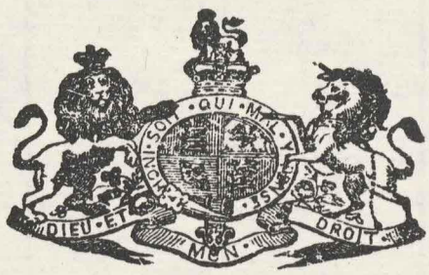
No. 47.

BRITISH BECHUANALAND.

REPORTS FOR 1890–92.

(For Report for 1889–90, *see* Colonial Reports [Annual] No. 3.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
August 1892.



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1892.

[C.—6829.–2.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title-page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
10	St. Lucia	1890
11	Bahamas	,,
12	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
13	Gibraltar	,,
14	Zululand	,,
15	Sierra Leone	,,
16	Barbados	,,
17	Falkland Islands	,,
18	Labuan	,,
19	British Honduras	,,
20	Basutoland	1890–91
21	Trinidad and Tobago	1890
22	Leeward Islands	,,
23	Grenada	,,
24	Straits Settlements	,,
25	British Guiana	,,
26	St. Helena	,,
27	Mauritius	,,
28	Gambia	,,
29	Hong Kong	,,
30	Ceylon	1889
31	Lagos	,,
32	Lagos	1890
33	Ceylon	,,
34	Newfoundland	,,
35	Jamaica	1889–91
36	Victoria	1890
37	British New Guinea	1890–91
38	St. Vincent	1891
39	Bermuda	,,
40	Seychelles, and Rodrigues	1889 and 1890
41	Gambia	1891
42	Barbados	,,
43	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
44	Bahamas	,,
45	Fiji	,,
46	Seychelles	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.

No. 47.

BRITISH BECHUANALAND.

[For Report for 1889–1890, *see* Colonial Report [Annual], No. 3.]

Sir H. B. LOCH to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, Cape Town,
May 27, 1892.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit, for your Lordship's information, a Despatch from Sir S. Shippard, covering reports from the heads of the several departments in British Bechuanaland and the Bechuanaland Protectorate upon the condition and progress of those territories during the eighteen months ended the 31st March la

These reports contain much interesting information and afford very satisfactory evidence of the steady progress which has been made in these territories in so comparatively short a time.

There are several important questions raised by Sir S. Shippard, and in the reports accompanying his despatch, to which it will be my duty to invite your Lordship's early consideration. I shall merely touch upon them in this despatch, leaving their further consideration, together with details of expenditure involved, to future communications.

I think I cannot better illustrate the progress that has been made than by drawing your Lordship's attention to the fact that while the revenue for the financial year 1889–90 was only 19,548*l.*, it is estimated for the current year at 55,230*l.*, and that the grant in aid required is only 100,000*l.*, as against 90,000*l.*, in spite of the additional responsibilities undertaken by Her Majesty's Government during the last three years, which, as your Lordship is aware, involve the maintenance of a considerable police force in the Protectorate north of the Crown Colony, where, during the last year, there has been exceptional expenditure, due to the threatened Boer trek and to other causes.

At present the country under Her Majesty's Protection yields only a very small revenue, but I am confident that when railway

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BRITISH BECHUANALAND.

communication has been extended through the territory and the settlement by Europeans of the high plateau has been effected through the conditional recognition of concessions, not only will there be a large increase of revenue but a very considerable reduction of expenditure.

Two very important questions have been referred to by Sir S. Shippard to which I have previously invited your Lordship's attention. These are the establishment of a High Court and the system of Trial by Jury, and the improvement of the Educational System in the Crown Colony. The establishment of a High Court and Trial by Jury is a matter, the consideration of which should not, in my opinion, be longer delayed, and I propose to address your Lordship very shortly on the subject. The question of education is one respecting which a very strong feeling prevails. The population of the Crown Colony is rapidly increasing and the need for improving the means of Education being strongly felt, the public are prepared to share the expenses connected with providing additional school buildings and payment of the salaries of competent teachers. I have just received an able report from Mr. F. Howe-Ely, Deputy Inspector of Schools in the Cape Colony, upon his recent investigation of the educational institutions in Bechuanaland, which I shall forward to your Lordship at an early date with my recommendations upon the subject.

I have given much consideration as to the best method of placing some restriction upon the wholesale destruction of forests which Sir Sidney Shippard informs me is taking place in British Bechuanaland. The Crown Colony being a party to the Customs Union, which provides for free trade in South African products, precludes the imposition of an export duty on wood, and, except with regard to Crown Lands, I do not consider that any protective measure can be adopted, but I have given instructions that Crown Forests, which are of considerable extent in the western districts, are to be carefully conserved, and I shall give early consideration to the necessary legislation for their preservation and management.

I entirely endorse Sir S. Shippard's views as to the importance of completing the trigonometrical survey of the Colony. To abandon it now would be to waste much of the value likely to be derived from the large expenditure that has been already incurred in carrying out this important and valuable work. It is a mistake to suppose that the country which still remains unsurveyed is by any means valueless, much of it being available for farms for which there are already many applicants, while there are indications which would lead to the belief that considerable mineral deposits exist.

I am in communication with the Governments of the South African Republic and Orange Free State on the subject of the conclusion of Extradition Conventions with British Bechuanaland,

but I think their consent will greatly depend upon the establishment of a High Court and Trial by Jury.

The reports from Mr. Surmon and Major Grey, in command of the Bechuanaland Border Police, are eminently satisfactory as regards the peace of the Protectorate and the efficiency of the Force, and I believe certain changes that I trust to see shortly introduced in the administration of the territory will lead to its speedy development and the creation of a fair revenue.

I have &c.

(Signed) HENRY B. LOCH,
Governor and
High Commissioner.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

ADMINISTRATOR to GOVERNOR.

(Extract.)

Administrator's Office, Vryburg.
May 5, 1892.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward, for your Excellency's information, the following reports on the progress of British iechuanaland and the condition of the Protectorate for eighteen months ending on the 31st March 1892:—

Page.

1. The Colonial Secretary and Receiver-General
2. The Crown Prosecutor - - -
3. The Surveyor-General - - -
4. The Registrar of Deeds - - -
5. The Postmaster-General and Superintendent of Telegraphs - - - -
6. The Collector of Customs - - -
7. The Inspector of Native Reserves - -
8. The Master of the Chief Magistrate's Court -
9. The Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate of Vryburg - - - -
10. The Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate of Mafeking - - - -
11. The Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate of Taungo - - - -
12. The Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate of Kuruman - - - -

BRITISH BECHUANALAND.

13. The Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate of Gordonia - - - -

14. The District Surgeon of Vryburg - -

15. The District Surgeon of Mafeking - -

16. The Assistant Commissioner, Bechuanaland Protectorate - - - -

17. The Officer Commanding the Bechuanaland Border Police in the Protectorate, including medical reports - - - -

Notwithstanding threatening indications on more than one occasion, peace has been maintained along the eastern border and throughout the Crown Colony and Protectorate during the last eighteen months.

The oft-mentioned need of an extradition convention and of reciprocity in the Administration of justice generally between Bechuanaland and the South African Republic continues to be much felt; but it can scarcely be hoped that negotiations with this object will prove successful pending the establishment of a High Court with trial by jury in this territory.

The report of the Colonial Secretary and Receiver-General shows a growth of revenue which, though slow, may be considered satisfactory inasmuch as the increase is due to normal and permanent development. The total revenue for the last financial year exceeded the estimate by upwards of 7,000*l.* while the total expenditure fell short of the estimate by upwards of 10,000*l.*

I concur generally with Mr. Newton in what he says on the subject of education which has hitherto been sadly neglected in this territory. Mr. F. Howe Ely, one of the senior inspectors of schools of the Cape Colony whose services have been kindly placed at the disposal of this Government by Sir Langham Dale, is at present engaged in preparing a report on the educational requirements of the territory.

The Crown Prosecutor calls attention to the wholesale destruction of forests in Bechuanaland. It is not easy to suggest a remedy. In view of the conditions of the Customs Union an export duty on wood could not be imposed in this territory without the express consent of the Cape Colony and of the Orange Free State. A preventive might at one time have been found in Mr. A. H. F. Duncan's suggestion as to establishing a forest department under the Surveyor-General; but since some of the finest forests in the western portion of the Crown Colony have been included in the grants of land made in consideration of railway construction this Government no longer has the same interest in the question.

The Surveyor General's account of the trigonometrical survey exhibits the accuracy and permanent value of this work.

Mr. Moorrees, who recently made an official tour in the newly-annexed district of Mier, points out that two-thirds of the land are available for sale and that there are upwards of 100 applications for farms in that district.

Since the construction of the railway there has been, especially in the district of Vryburg, a rise in the value of land in consequence of the influx of farmers from the Cape Colony, the South African Republic, and the Orange Free State.

The report of the Postmaster-General and Superintendent of Telegraphs exhibits a steady increase in the revenue of this department, which is being reorganised with a view to greater efficiency.

The returns of the Collector of Customs are highly satisfactory, and great credit is due to the small but very efficient staff engaged on the work of this department. The estimated revenue for the last financial year was 6,000*l.* The total receipts from the 1st January 1891 to the 31st March 1892 were 15,673*l.* 14*s.* 2*d.* from which must be deducted 1,005*l.* 8*s.* 5*d.* payable to the Cape Government leaving a net revenue for fifteen months amounting to 14,668*l.* 5*s.* 9*d.*

The statistics furnished by this department show that the export of grain and cereals from Native Reserves is a very important item and one which proves conclusively the soundness in an economic point of view of the policy which secured to the Bechuanas large tracts of land in the Crown Colony. An increase of Customs revenue may be confidently anticipated.

The returns of hut tax collected by the Inspector of Native Reserves show a short fall, attributable to Mr. St. Quintin's absence on duty in the district of Mier during three months. No ultimate loss will accrue from this, as the arrears will be collected during the current financial year. The Inspector suggests that certain petty Chiefs and headmen should be allowed 5 per cent. commission on hut tax collected by them. I see no objection to this proposal; but I should hesitate to endorse Mr. St. Quintin's further suggestion that natives in arrear in the payment of hut tax should be made liable to a fine.

Measures are being devised in concert with the Cape Government with a view to staying the plague of locusts referred to by Mr. St. Quintin.

The report of the Master of the Chief Magistrate's Court furnishes no returns and cannot be regarded as satisfactory.

The reports of the Civil Commissioners and Resident Magistrates show that the country is, generally speaking, peaceful and prosperous, and that there is an absence of serious crime.

BRITISH BECHUANALAND.

The Civil Commissioner of Gordonia calls attention to the need for a bridge across the Orange River at Upington, where the stream is of great width. The advantage would be incontestable; but the cost of such a bridge would be prohibitive as far as this Government is concerned.

There are many other public works of greater importance and far more urgently needed which this Administration has hitherto been prevented from undertaking through lack of means.

The District Surgeon's reports call for no special remark.

The inhabitants of Mafeking have lately applied for a grant of land for the purpose of erecting a hospital. Numerous cases of fever are sent down to that place from the Protectorate.

An improved system of State aided education and the establishment of a High Court with trial by jury are among the most pressing requirements of this territory.

On the whole, notwithstanding many drawbacks, the progress of the Crown Colony during the eighteen months ending on the 31st March last may be regarded as highly satisfactory.

The report of the Assistant Commissioner for the Bechuanaland Protectorate shows that that officer has made every effort to cope with the difficulties of a very trying position.

Mr. Surmon's discretion and firmness on all occasions deserve acknowledgment.

The report of the officer commanding the Bechuanaland Border Police at Macloutsi Camp is excellent, and speaks volumes for Major Grey's zeal and ability, the cordial support of the officers and the goodwill and discipline of the non-commissioned officers and men.

Too much praise can hardly be bestowed on the Dominican sisters who have nursed the sick at the Macloutsi Camp. These devoted ladies have earned the gratitude of all who are interested in the welfare of the force which guards the north-eastern border.

A schedule is annexed giving the titles of sixty-five legislative proclamations issued during the eighteen months ending on the 31st March last.

I have, &c.
(Signed) SIDNEY SHIPPARD,
Administrator.

His Excellency the Governor and
High Commissioner, Cape Town.

SCHEDULE.

LEGISLATIVE PROCLAMATIONS issued from SEPTEMBER, 1890, to MARCH 31st, 1892.

A.—British Bechuanaland.

No. 87, B.B., 1890.—To declare diphtheria to be an infectious disease within the meaning of the Public Health Act No. 4, 1883, and to make regulations in terms of section 32 of the said Act.

No. 88, B.B., 1890.—To amend the law relating to the annual license payable by assurance companies.

No. 89, B.B., 1890.—To provide for the discipline of the Bechuanaland Border Police in the Protectorate.

No. 90, B.B.,1890.—To provide for the discipline of the British South Africa Company's Police in the Protectorate.

No. 91, B.B., 1890.—To provide for a close season for game in the district of Taungs.

No. 92, B.B., 1890.—To give retrospective effect to Proclamation No. 82 B.B., 1890.

No. 93, B.B., 1890.—To provide for the entry of British Bechuanaland into the South African Customs Union.

No. 94, B.B., 1890.—To provide for levying Customs duty on stocks in hand on the 31st December 1890.

No. 95, B.B., 1890.—To put in force the "Public Roads Width Act, No. 27, 1884.

No. 96, B.B., 1891.—To declare the farms "Brussels" an infected area under Act No. 2, 1881.

No. 97, B.B., 1891.—To provide for the taking of a Census.

No. 98, B.B., 1891.—To fix the amount of bank-note duty payable by the Standard Bank.

No. 99, B.B., 1891.—To declare certain farms in the district of Gordonia to be infected areas under Act No. 2, 1881.

No. 100, B.B., 1891.—To increase the number of members forming the Board of Management for the township of Vryburg.

No. 101, B.B., 1891.—To provide additional market regulations for the township of Mafeking.

No. 102, B.B., 1891.—To repeal sections 71 and 72 of Proclamation No. 63, B.B., 1889., and to make provision for granting mining right leases in certain cases on land subject to a reservation of precious stones and precious minerals in favour of the Crown.

BRITISH BECHUANALAND.

No. 103, B.B., 1891.—To repeal Proclamation No. 96, B.B., 1891.

No. 104, B.B., 1891.—To consolidate and amend the laws and regulations for the management of prisons in British Bechuanaland.

No. 105, B.B., 1891.—To extend the operation of the Regulation of Railways Acts No. 19, 1861 and No. 16, 1889 to British Bechuanaland.

No. 106, B.B., 1891.—To provide for the annexation of the District of Mier to British Bechuanaland.

No. 107, B.B., 1891.—To alter the direction of Road No. 13 in Schedule C. to Proclamation No. 93 B.B., 1890.

No. 108, B.B., 1891.—To provide for the service of criminal process in places beyond the jurisdiction of the Court of Resident Magistrate issuing the same.

No. 109, B.B., 1891.—To enable the Master of the Chief Magistrate's Court to invest the Guardians Fund in British or Cape Government stock.

No. 110, B.B., 1891.—To repeal Proclamation No. 99, B.B., 1891.

No. 111, B.B., 1891.—To establish a Toll-bar on the Divisional Road between Vryburg and Mafeking.

No. 112, B.B., 1891.—To notify the admission of Basutoland into the South Africa Customs Union.

No. 113, B.B., 1891.—To extend the provisions of Proclamation No. 64, B.B., 1889 to persons of mixed race in Gordonia.

No. 114, B.B., 1891.—To empower the Vryburg Board of Management to raise a loan not exceeding 2,000*l.* for road making.

No. 115, B.B., 1891.—To repeal Proclamation No. 83, B.B., 1890.

No. 116, B.B., 1891.—To increase the rates payable under grazing licences under Proclamation No. 76, B.B., 1890.

No. 117, B.B., 1891.—To apply to British Bechuanaland the Cattle Removal Amendment Act No. 20, 1889; the Vagrancy Law Amendment Act No, 27, 1889; and the Brands Registration Act No. 12, 1890.

No. 118, B.B., 1891.—To extend the powers of the Vryburg Board of Management and to repeal the Market Regulations under Proclamation No. 11, B.B., 1886.

No. 119, B.B., 1891.—To empower the Vryburg Board of Management to regulate the sale of water.

No. 120, B.B., 1891.—To apply the laws of British Bechuanaland to the District of Mier.

No. 121, B.B., 1891.—To provide for the apprenticeship of juvenile offenders.

No. 122, B.B., 1891.—To provide for the valuation by Boards of Management of rateable property in townships.

No. 123, B.B., 1891.—To annex the District of Mier for judicial purposes to the District of Gordonia.

No. 124, B.B., 1891.—To apply certain sections of the Liquor Act No. 25, 1891, to British Bechuanaland and to repeal sections 79 and 80 of the Liquor Licensing Act No. 28, 1883.

No. 125, B.B., 1891.—To substitute Mafeking for Vryburg as a Free Warehousing Town, under section 22 of Proclamation No. 98, B.B., 1890, and to empower the Governor, by notice in the Government Gazette, to cancel and revoke the appointment of Free Warehousing, Town and Bonding Stores.

No. 126, B.B. 1891.—

No. 127, B.B. 1892.—To amend sections 16 and 17 of the Liquor Act No. 25, 1891.

No. 128, 1892.—To provide for the impounding of animals found trespassing on the Taungs Reserve within nine miles of the Dry Hartz Police station.

No. 129, B.B., 1892.—To reduce the rate payable for a grazing licence for large stock under Proclamation No. 76, B.B., 1890, as amended by Proclamation No. 116, B.B., 1891.

No. 130, B.B., 1892.—To amend section 5 of the Medical Ordinance No. 82 of 1880.

No. 131 B.B, 1892.—To empower Boards of Township Management to make byelaws for the control of natives within their respective areas.

No. 132, B.B , 1892.—To empower the Mafeking Management Board to make byelaws to regulate the carrying of water.

No. 133, B.B., 1892.—To reduce the rate of interest payable by the Master of the Chief Magistrate's Court as Administrator of the Guardians' Fund.

No. 134, B.B., 1892.—To amend the law with regard to Wild Ostriches.

No. 135, B.B., 1892.—To prohibit the introduction of Rabbits into, and to restrict the breeding of them in, British Bechuanaland

No. 136, B.B., 1892.—To provide for the Regulation of Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops.

No. 137, B.B., 1892.—To amend the Act No. 14, 1870, commonly called the Cattle Removal Act, 1870.

No. 138, B.B., 1892.—To amend the Law relating to Life Assurance Companies, with a view to encouraging persons to insure, and to protecting persons assured.

No. 139, B.B., 1892.—To consolidate and amend the Law relating to Oaths, Affidavits, Affirmations and Solemn Declarations.

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No. 140, B.B., 1892.—To amend the Act No. 27, 1889, commonly known as the "Vagrancy Law Amendment Act."

No. 141, B.B., 1892.—To provide for the better repression of Theft of Stock and Produce.

No. 142, B.B., 1892.—To amend the Act No. 36, 1886, commonly called the Game Law Amendment Act, 1886.

No. 143, B.B. 1892.—To repeal section 23 of Proclamation No. 93, B.B., 1890 and to provide that the duty of Sub-Collector of Customs shall be discharged at Mafeking by the Collector of Customs and at Vryburg and Taungs by the Civil Commissioners.

No. 144, B.B., 1892.—To faciliate the recovery of rates due and payable to Boards of Management for Townships in British Bechuanaland.

B.—Protectorate.

13th April 1891.—Prohibiting any unauthorised attempt to occupy, or establish an independent form of government in the territory of the British South Africa Company north of the Limpopo.

10th June 1891.—To establish jurisdiction in the Protectorate under the Order in Council of the 9th May, 1891.

27th June 1891.—To define the local limits of the jurisdiction of Resident Commissioners, Assistant Commissioners and Magistrates.

30th June 1891.—To authorise the expulsion of persons endangering the peace of the Protectorate or of territories beyond.

4th September 1891.—To exclude the territories of the British South Africa Company from the operation of the Proclamation of the 10th June 1891.

18th November 1891.—To vest in the High Commissioner power to commute sentences of death passed in the Protectorate.

19th November 1891.—To apply to the Protectorate the Cape Law relating to Insolvency and the Estates of Minors, Lunatics and Deceased or Absent Persons.

24th December 1891.—To establish the office and define the powers and duties of a Crown Prosecutor for the Bechuanaland Protectorate, including the Tati District.

REPORT OF THE RECEIVER-GENERAL.

Receiver-General's Office,
Vryburg, April 25, 1892.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit the annual report of this department for the last year and a half ending the 31st March last.

The following are comparative statements of the revenue in British Bechuanaland, and the expenditure in the territory and the Protectorate, during the three last financial years:—

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Comparative Statement of the Revenue of the Years 1889–90, 1890–91, *and* 1891–92.

	1889–90.	1890–91.	1891–92.
	£	£	£
Customs Revenue	—	2,448	13,226
Hut tax	2,246	3,410	1,975
Licenses	2,361	2,923	3,282
Revenue stamps	1,534	2,155	2,713
Transfer duty	2,497	2,754	2,996
Auction duty	69	190	223
Poll tax	—	7	—
Fines and fees	292	777	568
Succession duty	—	15	—
Survey receipts	1,291	1,493	585
Bank-note duty	—	90	—
Post Office { Colony	1,366	2,204	3,090
Post Office { Protectorate	635	1,412	3,014
Telegraphs	1,431	2,537	2,606
Quit-rents	3,287	4,850	3,758
Other rents	—	189	459
Sales of Government property	166	550	2,360
Sundries	134	25	267
Sundry receipts in aid	1,140	1,690	2,170
Contribution from the B.S.A. Company towards Protectorate expenses	—	2,475	3,100
Protectorate revenue	—	—	576
Total, excluding land sales	18,449	32,194	46,968
Land sales	1,099	13,117	5,061
Total	19,548	45,311	52,029

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Comparative Statement of the Expenditure of the Years 1889-90, 1890-91 and 1891-92.

—	—	1889-90.	1890-91.	1891-92.
		£.	£	£
1	Pensions	963	1,250	950
2	Administrator's department	2,709	3,231	2,868
3	Colonial Secretary and Receiver-General's department	1,424	2,181	2,174
4	Store department	578	589	—
4a.	Native affairs	515	871	892
5	Legal department	1,331	3,069	4,115
6	District Administration	5,313	5,954	6,799
7	Posts and Telegraphs	7,121	9,658	15,410
8	Customs	—	—	1,893
9	Police	66,639	107,418	94,717
10	Education	—	248	307
11	Transport	1,309	759	502
12	Miscellaneous	2,281	2,505	4,152
13	Colonial Surveyor's Department	3,879	11,043	8,197
14	Public works, recurrent	3,528	942	1,157
15	„ „ extraordinary		1,778	5,283
16	Assistant Commissioner with Lo Bengula	815	2,385	2,085
17	„ „ in Protectorate	—	1,160	1,640
	High Commissioner's travelling expenses	—	4,505	80
	Arbitration account and H. G. Brown's contract	—	—	681
	Total	98,405	159,546	153,902

Revenue.

Customs.—It was difficult to estimate the amount likely to be received under this head on account of our entry into the Customs Union on the 1st January 1891. The amount received has proved more than double that estimated, and the total of 15,674*l.* received from existing stocks and our share of duties under the union, from the above-mentioned date, has formed a most valuable addition to the income of the territory. Four-fifths of this sum has been collected in Cape Town, and I have to point out that the amount receivable for the quarter ending 31st March, probably about 3,000*l.*, has not been included in it.

Hut Tax.—Shows a marked decrease both from last years receipts and the estimate (3,000*l.*) This fact is explained by the absence of Mr. St. Quintin on special duty in the division of Gordonia, during four of the best collecting months in the year, and the estimate, therefore, for two-thirds of the year, is as correct as can be wished. No actual loss to the revenue has occurred by the enforced absence of Mr. St. Quintin, who will in due time, collect all outstanding amounts, which will be shown in the receipts for the current year.

The items *Licenses, Revenue Stamps, Auction Duty, Quit Rents, Other Rents, Sales of Government Property* and *Sundry Receipts in Aid,* all show satisfactory increases on the sums estimated to be received, and with one exception are substantially in excess of the sums received during the preceeding year.

The receipts under Quit Rents are not so large as for 1890–91, owing to the fact that in that year heavy arrears were recovered in all the divisions. There are still considerable arrears of quit-rent outstanding, in spite of the most urgent instructions having been issued on the subject, in accordance with instructions received from His Excellency the Governor. Your Honour's attention has been directed to the question as to an alteration of the law, in order to ensure a more speedy collection of this branch of revenue. In view, however, of the proposal to utilize the services of the Bechuanaland Border Police in serving personal notices to all those in arrear, it is not anticipated that any such alteration will be necessary.

Posts and Telegraphs.—The receipts under this head are disappointing when compared with the very large sum appropriated to the service. It is however satisfactory to note that the income of the Postal Department, both for the Colony and the Protectorate shows a marked increase on that for the preceding year.

Sales of Government Property.—The large sum realised under this head arises from the sale of a considerable stock of provisions and reserve stores laid in at Macloutsie during 1890. It was considered advisable to dispose of these stores, which were beginning to deteriorate, and they have realised fair prices.

Land Sales.—Very little land has been put into the market this year in this territory, and the amounts received are chiefly payments of balances due from transactions in the previous year.

Expenditure.

The expenditure under the sub-heads *Pensions, Administrator, Colonial Secretary and Receiver-General, Native Affairs, District Administration, Transport, Public Works Recurrent and Assistant Commissioners in Matabeleland and the Bechuanaland Protectorate,* has been normal and calls for no special remark.

Government Storekeeper.—The post of Government Storekeeper has been abolished, and a Commissariat and Ordnance Officer appointed, who now performs the duties of Government Storekeeper

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as far as the B.B. Police are concerned. The stores for the Civil Departments are dealt with from this office, and the new arrangement is found to work well.

Legal Department.—The requirements of the Legal Department, to which all services in connection with maintenance of gaols are charged, have seriously increased in the last two years. The growth of population, with a corresponding increase of crime, has added to the expenses of the administration of justice, and rendered the establishment of a central gaol at Vryburg a necessity. A total expenditure of some 2,250*l.* for a system of one central gaol and five local goals cannot be considered excessive.

Posts and Telegraphs.—An increase of nearly 6,000*l.* in the cost of this department calls for remark. The growth of postal communication, as evidenced by the receipts, will explain the additions which have been found necessary in the establishments at Vryburg, Mafeking and Macloutsi, while the extension of the system through the Protectorate can only be kept up by the payment of a very heavy subsidy for the conveyance of mails from Mafeking to Macloutsie. It will, no doubt, be a long time before the Government can recoup itself for such a payment by a corresponding increase of postal revenue, while the political importance of this line of communication, and the heavy charge it entails on Imperial Funds, should form strong reasons for an active support being given to any scheme of railway extension northward from Mafeking.

Customs.—A Customs Department appears this year, for the first time, in the list of establishments. Although it is responsible for the actual collection of only one-fifth of our Customs Revenue it is a necessary part of the system of the Customs Union of which British Bechuanaland is now a member. Its head-quarters have lately been removed from Vryburg to Mafeking, where the receipts, on account of the extensive use made by merchants of the newly-opened bonded store there, are rapidly increasing

Police.—A considerable reduction has been made in the cost of the police during the past year, notwithstanding that additional expenditure was necessarily incurred when complications in the Northern Protectorate and Matabeleland were anticipated. The favourable rates obtained for forage, mealies, and transport have caused a very large saving to be made on the sum voted for forage rations for horses and mules.

Miscellaneous.—Provision was made in the past year, under the vote "Miscellaneous," for the payment of a Capitation Grant to a force of volunteers. No payment has, however, been made during the past year on this account. It is to be hoped that all chance has not been thereby lost of securing a grant in aid of such a force. Provided the corps proposed to be formed proves worthy of assistance, it is well worth while to grant money in this direction, as an investment, for defence purposes, with a view to the formation

of a force which may, in time, partially supersede the very expensive force of mounted police now being maintained.

Education.—But if it is worth while to grant 400*l.* for the above purpose, what should be the sum devoted, if only as an investment, to the cause of education?

During the three years covered by the return given above, the sum of 555*l.* has been spent on education in this territory. A grant of only 300*l.* per annum to a territory of this extent is manifestly inadequate—or else too much. It is too much for what is attempted at present. A grant of 30*s.* or 3*l.* to a rural school per annum is good money wasted. What is really required is (1) a lump sum for construction of buildings, and for the initiation of a scheme, and (2) the guarantee of a smaller sum, payable annually, for purposes of maintenance. As in the case of the capitation grant to the Volunteer corps, the amount of each of these sums should be fixed according to the interest taken, and disposition to contribute evinced by the inhabitants of the territory.

Census.—The taking of the Census in the month of April, 1891, was on the whole satisfactorily accomplished, and the results, thanks to the good offices of the Director of Census in the Cape Colony, have been admirably tabulated; the total cost of the service amounting to 497*l.* It is, however, a matter of some regret that the native population of the territory could not have been included in the returns. The reasons against such a step were clearly put by the Inspector of Native Reserves, who explained that the native mind required education, on the subject of a Census, and that even if the funds for such an object were forthcoming, the time available was not sufficient. Mr. St. Quintin's official registers roughly supply much of the information which would have been collected in detail by Census.

Public Works Extraordinary.—The chief work that has been performed during the past year is the erection of a general hospital in Vryburg, which is now nearly approaching completion. Most of the labour has been supplied from the central gaol, and this and other useful public works performed by prisoners, should be set off against the increase of expenditure for maintenance of gaols.

Heavy expenditure has been incurred in the Protectorate over well-sinking, which has swallowed up a very large portion of the sum voted for public works. No more useful work could have been executed had it resulted in the anticipated supply of water, but the sites for the wells appear to have been unfortunately chosen, and further expenditure will be necessary to attain the object desired.

Since my last report to your Honour, a system of local audit has been put in operation, which has, I think, been of great advantage to the finances of the territory. The new local auditor, Mr. D. Ward, has co operated with me most cordially,

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and his exertions, more especially in matters regarding the collection of Revenue, have led to valuable results.

I beg leave, also, to express to your Honour my appreciation of the services rendered by Captain Greener, the newly appointed Pay-master of the British Bechuanaland Police. He has now in his hands the payment of the whole force, with the exception of A. troop, and in addition performs other accounting work in connection with the internal administration of the corps. The results, so far as this department is concerned, are most satisfactory.

Captain Greener will, I understand, shortly take charge of a savings bank for the benefit of the men of the British Bechuanaland Police in the Protectorate. I take this opportunity of stating to your Honour that a system of savings banks in each of the five divisions of the territory would supply a social want keenly felt by the bulk of the inhabitants of British Bechuanaland.

I have, &c.

(Signed) F. G. NEWTON,
Receiver-General.

His Honour the Administrator,
Vryburg.

REPORT OF CROWN PROSECUTOR.

(Extract.)

Crown Prosecutor's Office, Vryburg,
April 9, 1892.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit the following report for the year and a half ending 31st March last:—

District of Vryburg.

As might have been expected, owing to the influx of population consequent on the railway extension to Vryburg, there was an increase in crime, but I am pleased to say that the majority of offences were of the minor kinds, such as petty assaults, and contraventions of the Masters and Servants, Police Offences, and Vagrancy Acts, &c.

The wholesale deforestation of the territory, and of this district in particular, and the exportation of wood for use as fuel in the diamond mines at Kimberley have caused, and continue to cause, much alarm. It is an undoubted fact that large quantities of wood are cut on unoccupied private lands without the consent of the owners.

As these owners are not resident in the territory, convictions under the Forest and Herbage Preservation Act, 1859, are not easily obtainable. The evil can only be prevented by most stringent and arbitrary means. A law prohibiting the exportation

of wood would effect the desired result, but it would, I apprehend, be against the spirit of the Customs Union Convention.

The management of the Central Gaol has been excellent.

The health of the prisoners has materially benefited by an increase of vegetable diet.

I desire to call attention to the necessity of European guards being put in charge of hard labour parties. The present guards, natives, are quite unable to exercise the necessary control over the prisoners while at work.

I trust that provision exists in the estimates for the current year, for a new court-room, as the accommodation afforded by the present building is inadequate.

Districts of Mafeking and Kuruman.

The state of these two districts, as far as crime is concerned, has been satisfactory, notably in the case of Kuruman.

District of Taungs.

Stock thefts were more frequent than during the year ending September, 1890. I am given to understand that the Colonial Kaffirs residing on the farms bordering on the Cape Colony and Transvaal, are receivers of stock stolen in the Colony Free State and Transvaal. Cases of theft by the Bechuanas are very rare.

District of Gordonia.

The usual monthly returns forwarded to me show an increase in crime in this district, the culprits being wandering Corannas and Bushmen. The presence of an efficient police detachment will undoubtedly minimize crime.

The jurisdiction of the Resident Magistrate of the district has been extended over the newly annexed Bastard Territory. This, I take it, is meant as a temporary measure pending the appointment of a judicial officer at Mier, the chief village of the Bastard Settlement.

General.

The responsibilities of my Department have been increased by my appointment as Crown Prosecutor for the Protectorate. As this appointment is of recent date, I am not in a position to report on criminal matters in that territory.

I desire once more to place on record my opinion that provision should be made for a better administration of justice by means of a Recorder's Court, with trial by jury. I am aware that the establishment of such a court would involve an increase of expenditure, but I would most respectfully submit that the increase of the farming and commercial population, and the changed circumstances

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of the country, fully justify an alteration in the judicial system. Were such a court established, I would suggest that it be vested with the judicial powers at present exercised by His Honour the Administrator in his capacity as Resident Commissioner in the Protectorate.

The want of an extradition treaty with each of the neighbouring Republics continues to be felt. Had such a treaty existed between the Transvaal and this territory the great expense incurred by our Government in effecting the arrest of Norris, the defaulting railway clerk, would have been saved.

The extradition of fugitive offenders from the Protectorate and Mashonaland has been provided for by the extension of the Fugitive Offenders Act to these Territories.

My attention has lately been called to the desirability of approaching the Cape Colony and the two Republics with a view to reciprocal legislation in the question of endorsement of writs of execution.

I have, &c

The Secretary to His Honour the Administrator.

(Signed) J. VINTCENT, Crown Prosecutor.

(Extract.)

ANNUAL REPORT OF SURVEYOR-GENERAL, 1st OCTOBER 1890 TO 31st MARCH 1892.

Trigonometrical Survey.—The trigonemetrical survey of British Bechuanaland was commenced in April 1886 by Lieutenant Laffan, R.E., who completed his measurement of the base line and the observations of a few stations near to it in May 1887. From this base line situated near Taungs, the triangulation was extended during 1887, 1888, and 1889, south-eastward, by Mr. Melvill, over an area of 698 square miles, and north-eastward by Messrs. Melvill and Kolbe, over an area of 3,630 square miles, the length of the tract of country triangulated over being about 170 miles. In February 1891, Messrs. Moorrees and Bosman sent in their first section of the trigonometrical survey, extending from the base line about 54 miles north and 60 miles west, and covering an area of 1,615 square miles. This, however, includes about 121 square miles already triangulated by Mr. Melvill.

The second section, which was completed in February 1891, contained an area of 3,300 square miles, and extends south-westwards from the preceding section over Kuruman for a distance of about 50 miles, with a mean breadth of about 65 miles. The secondary triangulation of this section was ordered to stand over for some future time, in consequence of the urgent necessity of extending the survey into Gordonia.

Notwithstanding the great difficulties which had to be encountered in crossing the Kalihari, the third or Gordonia section of this work was completed last month. It consists of a single line of polygons and quadrilaterals extending from the previous section westward past Upington to the Molopo River. Its length is about 160 miles with a mean breadth of about 14½ miles and an area of 2,345 square miles. The total area covered by the trigonometrical survey up to the present is, therefore, 11,467 square miles.

As regards the merits of this work from a scientific point of view the following table, in which some of the principal Geodetic triangulations in Europe and South Africa are arranged in order of merit, will show not only that the three sections of the Bechuanaland trigonometrical survey occupy no mean position among the best Geodetic surveys of the world, but also that a higher standard of accuracy has been obtained in each succeeding section.

—	Mean Error of a single angle.	Size of Theodolite observed with.
Geodetic Survey, South Africa. (Port Elizabeth Section).	±0″·566	10 inch.
Struve Russian Arc.	±0″· 60	13 inch.
Geodetic Survey, South Africa (Natal and Griqualand East Section).	±0″·644	18 inch.
Prussian triangulation.	±0″· 65	12 in. and 15 in.
Maclears' Arc of the Meridian, South Africa.	±1″· 03	20 in. and 8½ in.
Bechuanaland triangulation. (3rd Section).	±1″· 04	7 inch.
French Arc Measurement.	±1″· 05	Unknown.
Austrian triangulation.	±1″· 23	Unknown.
Bechuanaland triangulation (2nd section).	±1″· 38	7 inch.
Baden triangulation.	±1″· 48	8 inch.
Kurhessen triangulation.	±1″· 65	Unknown.
Bavaria triangulation.	±1″· 81	Unknown.
Bechuanaland triangulation (first section).	±2″· 09	7 inch.
Ordnance Survey, Great Britain.	±2″· 21	3 ft., 2 ft., and 18 inch.
Würtemburg triangulation.	±2″· 23	12 inch.
Hessen Darmstadt triangulation.	±2″· 37	Unknown.

According to the original agreement and instructions there was no necessity for such superior class of work, and I may therefore be allowed to mention the name of Mr. J. J. Bosman, one of our colonial surveyors, as the man to whose ability, zeal, and devotion to his work we are indebted for the high standard of this important survey. From a practical point of view the value of this work can hardly be over-rated; in many countries erroneous surveys are one of the most fruitful causes of litigation and waste of money in connection with disputed land boundaries, necessitating very often the enormous expense of subsequent geodetic triangulations and re-survey of land grants. The Imperial Government has conferred a great boon on this territory, by authorising a geodetic

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triangulation as the basis of all future survey operations, but I may likewise be allowed to state, that the manner in which this work was commenced, and continued up to the present, reflects very great credit on the judgment, ability and tact of the late Surveyor-General, Mr. Duncan. To his forethought and energy in the first place we are indebted for the great practical advantages we are already reaping from this work, viz: the correct and uniform numerical data supplied to our surveyors, which enables them to do their work in a satisfactory manner, and the great facility and accuracy with which in this office we are enabled to lay down on the map of the country, the results of every survey which has been connected with the trigonometrical piles.

Co-ordinate and Compass Surveys.—The progress which has been made with the survey of land in British Bechuanaland during the last 18 months will be seen from the following figures: No less than 453 farms, 17 native reserves, and 1 Crown reserve have been surveyed, comprising a total area of 2,298,560 morgen of ground, or 4,865,000 English acres. In addition to these the township of Upington has been laid out.

The greater part of these surveys have been in the Divisions of Vryburg and Kuruman, but there still remains a large tract of country to the north-west of Genesa unsurveyed. In the divisions of Kuruman, Gordonia, and Mier, with exception of a narrow strip of country, covered by the trigonometrical survey, and a few surveyed farms, the whole tract of country bounded on the north by the Nosob and Molopo rivers, south by the Orange River, west by the 20th meridian, east by the 23rd meridian, and south-east by Griqualand West, is still unsurveyed. Three Government surveyors are at present engaged in Gordonia on surveys of farms belonging to private individuals.

Native Reserves have been laid out at the following places:—Motliton, Lower Kuruman, Madebing, Henning Vley, Boteeteletsa Manyeding, Koning, Debẽn, Doxan, Budin, Detlaraping, Garaphoane, Linopen, Gapitia, Magonat, and the western half of the Molopo Native Reserve, the total area being 386,933 morgen.*

Crown Reserve.—At Kuruman 32,183 morgen have been surveyed and set apart as a Crown Reserve.

Land Sales.—Two large blocks of land have been sold to companies. The Bechuanaland Estates Syndicate have purchased 100 farms comprising 301,327 morgen of ground at the rate of 2*s.* per morgen, while a thousand square miles or 306,860 morgen of ground have been sold to the Southern Land Company at the same rate. Two similar blocks of land have been applied for, one by Mr. T. W. Beckett, of Pretoria, and the other by the London and Bechuanaland Land Syndicate; but it is still doubtful whether the conditions of sale will be accepted.

* *Colonial Office Note.*—Certain of the names as given in the Report cannot be identified with any places hitherto known in official correspondence.

Twelve thousand square miles have been granted for railway construction from the Border to Mafeking. Of this, five large blocks, in extent about 6,000 square miles, and including many surveyed farms, have been selected and demarcated on the map Every farm, which is Crown land, in the Taungs and Kuruman districts, together about 1,000 square miles, has also been selected, and the balance, about 5,000 square miles, will be bounded, east by the existing grants, and west by a line drawn from a point along the Molopo, somewhere to the west of Manbela, to a point on the Griqualand West border, somewhere near Eysle's Farm, Witsand.

No provision has been made as yet for demarcating on the ground the unsurveyed portion of this grant, and the railway extension from Vryburg to Mafeking has not been commenced.

Only one farm has been sold to a private individual.

In the township of Mafeking, 26 erven have been sold by public auction, and one out of hand.

In Vryburg 13 erven, and at Kuruman 1 erf, have been sold.

Demand for Land.—The demand for land has very much increased during the past year, but applicants appear to consider the price asked too high, the position of available land being more or less unsuitable. There have been, however, over 100 applications for farms in the newly annexed district of Mier, and as soon as the land there can be surveyed into farms it is hoped that good prices will be obtained at public auction.

Departmental Work.—The increase of work in this office, which has been so great as to necessitate additional assistance, will be seen from the following figures :—

The number of titles issued :—

During	1889–90	-	-	amounted to	56
„	1890–91	-	-	„ „	125 and
„	1891–92	-	-	„ „	216

which numbers should be trebled to show the actual work done, as each title deed and diagram is made out in triplicate ; while upwards of 1,500 diagrams have been examined during the past year. In addition to the preparation of diagrams and numerous tracings and plans, a special compilation of all the surveyed portions of British Bechuanaland has been completed, and a map illustrative of His Excellency the Governor's trip to the Protectorate, and maps for use in the taking of the Census have also been made.

District of Mier.—In July 1891, I received instructions to inspect and report upon the newly annexed territory of Mier, and to demarcate approximately its western boundary line, which likewise forms the boundary between the English and German possessions in South-Western Africa. This district is bounded on

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the north, east, and south, by the Nosob, Molopo, and Orange rivers respectively, and on the west by the 20th Meridian.

The work was performed for a distance of about 120 miles from the Orange River northwards, which is as far as was practicable, for the country further north is uninhabited and destitute of water, and can only be traversed during good seasons, when the wild melon, which has to provide man and beast with water, abounds. In consequence of a severe drought it was impossible to proceed further north; but under the circumstances I consider it as very satisfactory to be able to report that what was really necessary has been completed.

The boundary line, which could only be approximately demarcated, as the trigonometrical survey was not sufficiently advanced to enable me to determine it accurately, cuts through David Vilander's country thereby causing great regret to the Chief and his people, who sincerely wished that the whole of their country should have been annexed, and urgently requested me to communicate this wish to Her Majesty's representative in British Bechuanaland. As regards the value of their land I cannot pronounce a very favourable opinion, but the inhabitants, mostly bastards, a mixed race of colonial origin, may be described as a good and law-abiding class of people. Formerly they chiefly lived by hunting large game, but as the game gets exterminated, their habits become more and more pastoral, so that now some well-to-do cattle farmers are found amongst them. They hold their lands under a kind of individual freehold tenure, and speak the Dutch and Hottentot languages with equal facility.

The area of Vilander's country is about 10,492 square miles, of which about 8,383 square miles fall to the east and about 2,109 square miles to the west of the 20th meridian.

The approximate area of the whole district of Mier is about 9,875 square miles, of which about 3,209 square miles have been granted as farms, and about 6,666 square miles are still available Crown land.

(Signed) A. MOORREES,
Surveyor General.

Vryburg, April 5th, 1892.

REPORT UPON THE DEEDS REGISTRY OFFICE OF BRITISH BECHUANALAND FOR THE YEAR, OCTOBER 1890 TO SEPTEMBER 1891, AND FOR THE PERIOD OCTOBER 1891 TO MARCH 1892.

From the annexed comparative statement it will appear that there has been a marked increase in all the more important sources of revenue of this department.

Though the number of transfers registered during the year 1890–91 is very little in excess of those registered during the preceding year, the value of property transferred has been much greater, being in the proportion of nearly $1\frac{3}{4}$ to 1. This increase in value may, in a measure, be attributed to the high values placed upon a few farms disposed of by speculators to companies promoted for the ostensible purpose of carrying on ranching operations.

The real and more desirable cause of the steadily increasing value of landed property, however, is the influx of a large number of well-to-do farmers from the Cape Colony, Orange Free State, and Transvaal, who have purchased land in British Bechuanaland, principally in the division of Vryburg, for the purpose of settling down to farming, regarding this county as offering exceptional facilities for all branches of the industry.

During the early part of the year properties situate in the Township of Vryburg, were sold at high prices owing to the impetus given to business by the completion of the railway to this point, which, as the terminus, became the base of a large forwarding business to Mashonaland and the Transvaal. The extension of the railway beyond Bloemfontein, by which nearly the whole of the Transvaal traffic has been diverted, and the prospect of an early extension of the line to Mafeking, have tended latterly to bring down the prices of property in this town considerably, and it may now be said to have reached its normal value.

The increase in the number and value of bonds registered has been very marked. This may be regarded as a very favourable sign, indicating a growing confidence on the part of capitalists in Bechuanaland properties, as offering sound securities for remunerative investment.

The increase in the work of the office, noted in the foregoing, has been fully maintained during the latter period to which this report alludes.

In compliance with a request contained in the annual report for last year, a clerk was appointed to this office in April last; the appointment has been fully justified by the increased work which has had to be dealt with, and consequent increased revenue.

I would again draw attention to the very unsatisfactory condition of the strong room attached to this office, it is neither burglar nor fire-proof; the very serious and irreparable loss which may result to the Government, owing to its present condition, demands early attention to this matter.

The following is a comparative statement of the number of transfers registered, value of property transferred, number and value of hypothecations registered, and other sources and amounts of revenue for the periods 1889–90, 1890–91, and 1891–92.

This statement does not, however, convey an accurate idea of the work dealt with in this office, as all work, such as the registration for issue of new title deeds, &c., from which there is no revenue derived by this department, does not appear in the statement.

Comparative Statement.

	1889–90	1890–91.	1891–92.
Number of transfers registered	281	284	121
" bonds registered	52	129	77
" bonds cancelled	48	65	30
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Value of property transferred	58,735 12 4	91,162 6 9	30,459 4 9
" bonds registered	27,749 1 0	56,947 3 5	32,782 8 5
" bonds cancelled	20,730 10 1	15,000 1 0	15,105 2 8
The departmental revenue is as follows:—			
Amount received in stamps on value of property transferred	239 8 0	299 2 0	131 8 0
Amount received in stamps on value of bonds passed	119 4 6	247 10 0	149 16 ;
Amount received in registration fees on transfers	281 0 0	267 0 0	77 0 0
Amount received in registration fees on ante-nuptial contracts	10 1 0	16 6 0	10 15 0
Amount received in registration fees on sundry documents	42 17 6	18 19 0	22 17 0
Amount received on powers of attorney	25 15 0	48 4 6	16 10 0
Amount received on cancelled bonds	8 7 0	9 15 0	6 3 0
Amount received on cession of bonds	6 19 6	12 17 6	7 12 0
Amount received on cancellation of interdicts	2 8 0	0 9 0	0 3 0
Amount received on searches	13 18 0	14 16 0	9 7 0
Total	801 18 6	1,063 19 0	552 11 6

(Signed) E. ROSS TOWNSEND,
Acting Registrar.

Deeds Registry Office, Vryburg,
4th April 1892.

REPORT OF THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL AND SUPERINTENDENT OF TELEGRAPHS

Office of the Postmaster-General
and Superintendent of Telegraph,
Vryburg, April 16, 1892.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit the report of this department for the eighteen months ended 31st March 1892, together with comparative statements of the work done and Revenue collected for the years 1889–90, 1890–91, and 1891–92. From the statements submitted, it will be observed that there has been a

considerable increase in the work dealt with, and the Revenue collected under all heads; This is chiefly due to the operations of the British South Africa Company in Mashonaland, as all mail matter, and telegraph work passed through this territory, and a transit rate has been levied by this Government on letters, telegrams, &c. passing between the Company's territories, and other South African Colonies and States.

Post Offices.

Since my last report, the postal agency at Macloutsi has been created a Post-office, and a Postmaster appointed there. This office is now the office of exchange between this territory and Mashonaland. As a considerable amount of postal work has to be dealt with at Macloutsi additional accommodation has been provided. The postal agencies in the Protectorate, viz., Kanya and Molepolole, are now served by native runners from the main coach route. The agencies at Tati and Buluwayo are also served by runners from Palachwe. A postal agency has also been established at Keimoes in the division of Gordonia; this agency is served by Native runners from Upington, viâ the Agency at Bloemfontein.

Conveyance of Mails.

There is now a daily service between Vryburg and Kimberley byt rain, and a bi-weekly service by coach between Vryburg, and Mafeking, and a weekly service by cart between Mafeking and Macloutsie. Kuruman is now served once a week from Vryburg by cart, and a contract has been entered into for a bi-weekly service to commence on the 1st May next.

Telegraphs.

The general working of the Telegraph Department has been most satisfactory, during the last eighteen months; there have been but few line interruptions, and practically no delay to traffic; the new instruments mentioned in my last report as necessary to meet the increasing work have been provided. The extension of the wire beyond Mafeking by the British South Africa Chartered Company, has been completed to Fort Salisbury, the head-quarters of the Company in Mashonaland.

General.

The work done by the Postal and Telegraph Departments, during the last eighteen months, as already pointed out, has been very considerable, and it gives me great pleasure to be able to testify to the careful manner in which the work has been dealt with by every member of the staff.

As already mentioned, the great increase of work and revenue as been due to the British South Africa Company's operations

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in Mashonaland; as the Company, however, are making use of other routes for mail matter to and from their territories, viz.:—viâ Pietersburg through the Transvaal, and viâ Port Beira and the Pungwe River, I fear there must necessarily be a considerable falling off in our Postal revenue during the next twelve months.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. MIDDLETON,
Postmaster-General and
Superintendent of Telegraphs.

His Honour
Sir Sidney Shippard, K.C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.
Administrator, British Bechuanaland.

FIRST ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COLLECTOR OF CUSTOMS BRITISH BECHUANALAND.

Mafeking, April, 1892.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to present herewith the following report on the Customs transactions of this Colony to the 31st March, 1892.

Entry of British Bechuanaland into the South African Customs Union.

During the period from October 1885, when Her Majesty's sovereeignty was proclaimed over this territory, until 31st December 1890 no Customs duties were levied upon goods entering British Bechuanaland. As this is an inland territory all importations from countries beyond the sea came through either the Cape Colony or Natal. The Cape Customs tariff is very high, because a large section of the Colonists have strong objections to direct taxation, but in order to enable the Cape merchants to compete on even terms in this respect with those of Natal, in which Colony the tariff is much lower, the Cape Government granted a rebate of customs duties upon the majority of the goods removed to certain inland countries, including Bechuanaland. The rebate, however, in no case exceeded the difference between the amounts of the Customs duties payable on such goods in the Cape Colony and Natal respectively.

Merchants and consumers in this territory benefited to the extent of some thousands of pounds annually by this arrangement but no advantage was reaped by the Government; and in order to obtain revenue from such a legitimate source the Bechuanaland Government decided to join the South African Customs Union.

I have much pleasure in reporting that the financial result is very satisfactory and that the regulations are working smoothly. The duties, according to a uniform tariff, are collected at various sea and inland ports on the borders of the union. The Govern-

ment of each country retains the whole of the duties collected by it upon goods consumed within the same; and retains one-fourth of the duties upon goods removed for consumption in other countries wtthin the Union, paying over the remainder three-fourths to the Government of the latter. There is free trade between the parties to the Union in respect of all South African products imported overland. Rebate is still allowed upon goods removed through the Union under certain regulations to countries outside its limits, and the whole of the duties, less rebate, are retained by the country into which such goods were first imported. Arrangements have also been made by means of which goods warehoused in bond without the payment of duty in one country can be removed to bonding warehouses in other countries within the Union, the Government of the country from which they are removed paying the cost of the collection of duties upon final delivery from bond and receiving its share of duties as if they had been collected on first importation. Accounts between the parties to the Union are adjusted quarterly.

The Customs Union at present comprises the following countries, viz.:—the Cape Colony and the Orange Free State by agreement from 1st July 1889, British Bechuanaland from 1st January 1891, and Basutoland from 1st July 1891, provision has been made for any other civilized Governments in South Africa to join after six months' notice dating from 1st January or 1st July in any year.

Imports.

Prior to our entry into the Union no statistics were kept of the trade of this territory except by the Customs Department of the Cape Colony, which has recorded the quantity and value of goods exported under rebate of duty. From the published returns of the Cape Government I extracted statistics relating to such goods and on the 7th ultimo submitted to your Honour detailed statements of our trade during the years ending 31st December 1889, 1890, and 1891, so far as the particulars can be ascertained. The total recorded value of dutiable goods imported during the financial years ending 31st March was as follows:—

			£
1889–90.	Into Bechuanaland and the Protectorate		62,213
1890–91.	Do.		132,607
1891–92.	Into British Bechuanaland	£90,053	
	Into and through the Protectorate	54,495	—144,548

These figures, however, do not represent the entire cost to the Colony of its imports, because according to the laws at present in force the value of imports is taken to be the declared value at the port of shipment with the addition of only 5 per cent. The various costs and charges upon the goods which are incurred

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between the port of shipment and Bechuanaland in respect of commissions, insurance, freight, dock-dues, railage, &c., vary from 45 per cent. to 300 per cent. upon the declared value. It will therefore be a great improvement from a statistical point of view when the parties to the Customs Union agree to accept the actual cost of the goods as they lie at the port of entry as the real value thereof. This was recently recommended by a special committee in England for adoption throughout the Empire.

"Through Traffic."

The extension of the railway system to Vryburg caused a considerable proportion of the merchandise for the South African Republic from the Cape Colony to be sent through this territory for fifteen months; but the opening of the Cape Railway to Kroonstadt in the Orange Free State in February last has naturally diverted a large portion of that traffic. During the last twelve months no less than 39,469,413 lbs. weight of merchandise were received at Vryburg Station. As mining machinery is admitted duty free the regulations do not require that waggon passes should be granted for it. There has, however, been considerable traffic in dutiable goods upon which rebate has been granted. During 1891–2 there were 4,302 waggon-loads of goods weighing 31,068,864 lbs. cleared through the Vryburg Custom House, being an average of 359 waggons and 2,589,072 lbs. monthly. The busiest month was October, when the details of 533 waggon loads, weighing 3,753,053 lbs. were entered and the lightest month was March, 1892, when only 162 waggons conveying 1,231,200 lbs. were recorded.

Exports.

The cost of collecting full statistics as to the quantity and value of exports from this territory would probably be greater than their present importance would warrant. By the courtesy of the Railway Department I am able to supply the following particulars as to the weight of goods removed from Bechuanaland by rail to the Cape Colony and Orange Free State.

—	From December, 1890, to March 1891.	Financial Year 1891–2.
	lbs.	lbs.
General Merchandize - - - - - -	333,926	1,308,723
Wool and Mohair - - - - - - -	176,685	673,585
Grain and Cereals - - - - - - -	5,300	4,243,159
Agricultural Produce (not otherwise specified) - -	2,891	319,920
Timber and firewood - - - - - -	80,676	7,652,431
Minerals and gravel - - - - - - -	—	805,746
Skins and Hides, Horns and Ivory - - - -	180,685	980,681
	780,163	15,984,245

The weight removed to the Orange Free State was 75 lbs. in 1890–1 and 97,785 lbs in 1891–2. The smallest quantity sent away in any one month during the past financial year was in April 1891, when the total only reached 388,110 lbs.; the greatest weight was in March 1892 when the total was 3,415,632 lbs. of which no less than 2,118,004 lbs. is included under the head of timber and firewood. I regret to have to record the last item, because it indicates the reckless extent to which living trees, which cannot well be spared in this country, are being destroyed for sale as firewood in Kimberley. I presume that the various Civil Commissioners in the territory have already brought the matter to your Honour's notice, and I, therefore, content myself with merely reporting the figures. I should add that the wool and mohair came chiefly from the South African Republic, the grain and cereals from Bechuanaland Native Reserves and the skins, hides, horns and ivory, principally from this territory and the Protectorate.

Customs Duties Received.

During the past fifteen months the following amounts have been received:—

	£	s.	d.
Duties on excessive stocks held by importers on 31st December 1890 - - - -	3,384	4	3
Duties on goods entered for consumption in British Bechuanaland - - - -	12,014	0	10
Duties on goods entered on importation for removal to the Cape Colony - - -	30	13	1
Duties, less rebate, on goods entered for removal to places beyond the Union, viz:—			
On first importation - -	4	6	5
From Bond - - - -	240	9	7
	244	16	0
	£15,673	14	2

Collections 1890–1 (3 months) were - -	2,448	6	4
Do 1891–2 12 months) were - -	13,225	7	10
	£15,673	14	2

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The amount payable to the Cape Government in terms of the Convention are—

	£	s.	d.
On goods removed to the Cape Colony (¾ths of full duty)	631	19	9
On goods originally warehoused in the Cape Colony and delivered from Bond in British Bechuanaland ¼th of receipts for consumption in British Bechuanaland £ 138 13 9			
The whole of duty, less rebate, upon goods exported beyond the Union 234 14 11			
	373	8	8
making a total of	1,005	8	5
thus leaving a net revenue for the 15 months amounting to	14,668	5	9

The amounts and proportions contributing to this result by the various classes of merchandize are

	£		Duty. £	Percentage.
Provisions (various kinds)			1,537	10·5
Coffee	938	6·41		
Chicory	126	·85		
Tea	758	5·18		
Sugar	941	6·43	2,763	18·8
Ale and Beer	458	3·13		
Spirits	2,475	16·89		
Wine	235	1·60	3,168	21·6
Tobacco (all kinds)	849	5·80		
Drugs, &c.	122	·83	971	6·6
Total from food, drink, and narcotics			8,439	57·5
Raw Materials			210	1·4
Manufactured Articles:				
Textile	2,781	18·98		
Metal	1,153	7·87		
Other	1,626	11·09	5,560	38·0
Unclassified			459	3·1
Total			14,668	100·

Bonding Warehouses.

As Vryburg is the seat of government, and the present terminus of the Bechuanaland railway, it was proclaimed a free-warehousing port when the Customs Laws for this territory were promulgated. The Vryburg storekeepers did not avail themselves of the advantages thus offered them, and as the Mafeking storekeepers urged their claims to a similar privilege the appointment of Vryburg as a free-warehousing town was revoked in favour of Mafeking. The result has amply justified the change, as the following figures will show:—

The Vryburg storekeepers during 12 months placed only 48 packages, valued at 40*l.*, into bond, whilst at Mafeking, during the six weeks ended 31st March 1892, there were:—

			£	*s.*	*d.*
"Warehoused" - -	3,700 packages, valued at		5,178	17	11
and "delivered" -	1,717	„ „	2,425	9	1
Balance being -	1,983		2,753	8	10

I have, &c.
(Signed) ERNEST C. BAXTER,
Collector of Customs.

To His Honour the Administrator,
British Bechuanaland.

REPORT OF THE INSPECTOR OF NATIVE RESERVES.

Taung, British Bechuanaland,
April 12, 1892.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to report, as follows, for the information of His Honour the Administrator:—

Collection of Hut Tax.—I have collected the amount of four thousand and forty-eight pounds sterling (4,048*l.* sterling) from 1st October 1890 to 31st March 1892; have had no serious trouble in collecting the same.

In future, for the better collection of the tax, I would suggest that the petty Chiefs in the several districts, such as Galishwe of Phokwani, Kantlapane of Monte, Phoe of Setlagoli, Motsiokomo of Pitsani, Monchose of Moroquen, and the headmen of the smaller Reserves be allowed a small commission, say 5 per cent., on the amount collected at their respective villages; this would encourage them to keep their people up to the mark, and I believe it would materially assist to increase the revenue.

These men up to the present time have willingly assisted in the collection of the tax, and I consider that they ought to receive some slight reward for their services.

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In this matter the paid Chiefs must not be taken into consideration, as the petty Chiefs and headmen mentioned work independently with their people.

Further, I would suggest that any native failing to pay the tax to the collector on application should be made liable to pay a fine, say of 5s. in the pound; this would, of course, not apply to a man who may have been unable to pay through sickness or other reasonable causes.

Crops.—Very good last season throughout the territory; locusts were swarming in every district, but the grass being plentiful, they did no material damage to the standing crops.

General Health.—Good, no serious epidemic to contend against.

Feelings.—General feeling of contentment and security. Taungs natives complain sadly of want of grazing veld.

My assistant, Mr. J. P. McCarthy, left me early in October 1890, in order to accompany His Excellency the Governor on his tour of inspection to the Protectorate, and joined me again at Kuruman the latter end of December. He has accompanied me on my visits to the various reserves in the several districts, and has been of great service to me as interpreter, and also in the matter of registering the huts, but unfortunately he is totally unfit to take any of the clerical work connected with this Department off my shoulders. Consequently my time is wholly occupied in the work of collecting the tax, and I am thus unable to pay attention to matters in which the interests of the natives are concerned.

In conclusion, I wish to bring to the notice of His Honour the Administrator the fact that the horse allowance of 40*l.* a year granted to myself and assistant is quite inadequate, as we are continually losing our horses from the disease prevalent in this country. During the last 12 months I have lost no less than four horses, and Mr. McCarthy has lost two.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. ST. QUINTIN,
Inspector of Native Reserves.

To the Secretary,
His Honour the Administrator,
British Bechuanaland.

REPORT OF THE MASTER OF THE COURT OF THE CHIEF MAGISTRATE'S COURT OF BRITISH BECHUANALAND, FOR THE EIGHTEEN MONTHS ENDED 31ST MARCH 1892.

There has been a considerable increase in the work of this office during the past 18 months; 86 death notices have been filed, and eleven insolvencies.

A great deal has also been done in the way of closing up old estates, which entails much correspondence. The Protectorate

having been placed under the jurisdiction of the master, not only adds considerably to the work of the Department, but creates some difficulties, owing to the impossibility of getting proper agents in that territory to carry out what is required. A Masters' office having been established by the British South African Company, a number of estates which had been sent here for adjustment have been forwarded to that office.

(Signed) R. TILLARD,
Master.

Vryburg, British Bechuanaland,
5th April 1892.

REPORT OF THE CIVIL COMMISSIONER OF VRYBURG FOR THE EIGHTEEN MONTHS ENDING 31ST MARCH 1892.

There has been a considerable influx of farmers into the district during the past eighteen months, and as transport has not been paying well lately, and is not likely to improve, several farmers, who formerly made their living by carrying, have now abandoned it, and are turning their attention to more legitimate farming; the result, however, has been to lower the price of oxen and waggons, so that it is difficult to realise; a considerable number of persons have therefore been induced to go in for cutting wood, and selling it in Vryburg for the Kimberley market, and this has been carried out to such an extent that the question of stopping it is now under the consideration of Government. The farmers in the district generally are much hampered by want of capital, few of them have anything like sufficient cattle to stock their farms, and the excessive rate of interest charged here on mortgages, prevents many from raising money. In the Cape Colony, Government lend money at easy rates for making certain productive improvements, and it would be a great benefit to the country if something of the sort could be done here.

The opening of the railway has not been of so much benefit to the town as was expected, owing, no doubt, in a great measure to the distance of the station from the business part of the town. An almost separate township has sprung up in the vicinity of the station, but the buildings are not of a permanent character, and will probably be removed when the railway goes on further. The Divisional Council have spent more money on the roads during the past 18 months than during the whole of their previous existence. A new valuation of the division is now being made, and as a large number of farms have been given out since the last was made, the revenue of the Council will no doubt be considerably augmented. The District, however, is so large that it is impossible to keep all the roads in order.

The revenue of the Board of management has increased, and a loan was raised for street-making purposes.

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Considerable improvements have been made during the past 18 months. The hospital, which is now near completion, will no doubt be a great boon, not only to the district, but also to other parts of the territory.

There has been an increase of nearly 20 per cent. on the real revenue of the division, collected by my Department during the past 12 months.

The Gaol is in good order, but the brickwork requires plastering.

It affords sufficient accommodation for present requirements.

Public Offices have been repaired, and are now in good order.

A new Court-room, however, is much needed.

Vryburg, B.B.,
April 5, 1892.

(Signed) R. TILLARD,
Civil Commissioner.

REPORT OF THE RESIDENT MAGISTRATE, MAFEKING.

April 13, 1892.

SIR,

IN compliance with your letter No. 28 of the 18th December, I have the honour to submit my annual report for the past 15 months. This period having been comparatively uneventful, my report will therefore be necessarily short.

Politically I have little to chronicle; the Barolong still continue to be law-abiding and orderly; credit is, I think, due to the Chief Montsioa for his action on the occasion of rumoured trouble with the Natives at Molepolole; he, Montsioa, assembled his people and warned them to be in readiness to assist the Government if necessary. I am glad to say I am able to obtain help from the Chief in judicial matters whenever required. The death a few months back of the eldest son and heir, Kebalapile, was a source of great sorrow to Montsioa and to the nation at large.

Owing to the rains this season being somewhat late, and to the ravages caused by the swarms of locusts which have visited this district for months past, the harvest prospects are far from bright, but from what I can gather there is little fear of there being any want as there is still a store of grain from past year's crops, and the natives can also always fall back on transport as a means of livelihood.

Crime shows a slight increase on past years, but only in proportion to the increase of population. I regret to say there is still a considerable traffic in supplying liquor to natives in spite of the severe punishment that I have inflicted in all cases that have been brought home; the chief culprits are the members of the Indian community, of whom several have been lately convicted, and who appear to be quite callous to a sentence which may, perhaps, involve

six months' hard labour, for the sake of a shilling or two which they make out of the trade.

The revenue for the year is approximate to that of last year, and I regret my hopes of an increase have not been realised. My estimate, however, was based on the supposition that the railway would have been commenced before now, and that thereby the district would have been opened up.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. G. HATCHARD,
Civil Commissioner and Resident
Magistrate,

The Secretary, Vryburg.

REPORT OF RESIDENT MAGISTRATE, TAUNGS.

(Extract.)

SIR, Taungs, April 4, 1892.

I HAVE the honour to submit my report for this district for the last eighteen months ending the 31st March.

The Natives.

The natives' prosperity has still been satisfactory, their crops last year were very good in this district, and the prospect of the coming harvest is most promising, and their conduct has been thoroughly law-abiding, although they have suffered heavily from farmers impounding their cattle.

Farms and Farmers.

I regret to say that I cannot report on any improvements being carried out on the farms of this district, and the number of farms occupied has decreased since my last report; I attribute this to so many of the men who were originally granted farms in this district having had no capital to stock and work their farms, and that the parties purchasing are not farmers, but are speculators purchasing for a rise in prices of farms, or they have taken the farms over for debt.

Trades.

There are now 14 stores in the district, bringing in a revenue for licences of 234*l.* a year. Six of the stores are in the village, although by the completion of the railway, trade has considerably decreased, and is decreased to a local one, principally native. I believe they are mostly doing a paying business.

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Buildings.

The Government Buildings, with the exception of the gaolers' quarters, are in good repair, and the gaol, since last year's additions, is very complete: but the gaoler's quarters I fear at every heavy rains will fall. They are built of raw bricks, and badly roofed, allowing the rain to get in between the roof and the walls.

I have, &c.

(Signed) STANLEY LOWE,
Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate.

To the Secretary, Vryburg.

ANNUAL REPORT OF RESIDENT MAGISTRATE, KURUMAN, FROM 1ST OCTOBER 1890 TO 31ST MARCH 1892.

According to your instructions I beg herewith to forward my Report ending 31st March 1892.

Since my last Report no change of any importance has taken place in my district.

On account of the seasonable rains the natives reaped splendid crops last season; so that crime in the shape of thieving is almost unheard of. The great drawback to this prosperity is the facilities it affords the Bechuana of indulging in his favourite luxury—that is, in making unlimited quantities of Kaffir beer. From all sides I am informed that the natives are doing nothing else but making and drinking beer, consequently labour is scarce, as the Bechuana will not work unless driven to it.

In July last I visited most of the native locations towards the West. I found everywhere the natives quiet and contented. The only imaginary grievance they had was that they could not get powder or ammunition so easily as before. I explained to them that white as well as the black man must have a permit, as it was the law, to buy ammunition; this appeared then to satisfy them.

Liquor.

I am pleased to say that, so far as I am aware of, no liquor is being supplied to the Bechuanas in the district, but I think Kaffir and honey beer is a splendid substitute.

Unoccupied Farms.

I was in hopes that by this time most of the farms in the district would have been occupied, but to my disappointment all vacant lands to a large extent have been given to the Railway and Chartered Company, consequently all these lands are still lying unoccupied, and the revenue of the district still remains small. I

do trust some arrangement will soon be made so that these farms can either be sold or leased, and be the means of bringing a larger population into this district.

Roads.

On account of the late heavy rains the roads are everywhere in a very bad state, especially the drifts at some of the native locations. As the mails are at present conveyed by cart from Vryburg, it is highly desirable that something should be done to get the roads in proper repair, at all events fit to travel on.

Schools.

I am pleased to say that the Misses Price are doing good work amongst the native children; they have at present over a hundred children in school. The European children are, however, neglected, especially in the district.

Administration of Justice.

I would venture to suggest that I think the time has arrived that some alteration should be made in the Administration of Justice by native Chiefs or Headmen. I think that the majority of the natives would prefer to come direct to the Resident Magistrate and that therefore Sections 31 and 32 of the British Bechuanaland Regulations might be so altered as to make it optional either to go to the Headman or the Resident Magistrate direct.

Summary of Criminal Cases from 1*st October* 1890 *to* 31*st March* 1892.

18 *Months.*

Contravention of Statute Laws - -	13
Thefts - - - - -	6
Perjury - - - - -	1
Assault - - - - -	6
	26

From 1*st October* 1889 *to* 30*th September* 1890.

12 *Months.*

Contravention of Statute Laws - -	8
Thefts - - - - -	3
Assault - - - - -	2
	13

BRITISH BECHUANA-LAND.

Passes issued from the above Office for the periods as under :—

1889 to 1890 - - - -	1,650
1890 to 1891 - - - -	1,770
1891 to 1892 (to 31st March 1892) -	2,825
	6,245

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. B. SCHOLTZ,
Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORT OF RESIDENT MAGISTRATE, GORDONIA, FOR THE 18 MONTHS ENDED THE 31ST MARCH 1892.

1.—*Collection of Revenue.*

I am glad to report that all quit rents for the year 1891–1892 have been paid, and with the exception of a small amount of Poll Tax still due to the late Administration, there are no arrear taxes outstanding.

2.—*Harvest.*

The overflow of the Orange River occasioned great damage to the wheat and mealie crops, especially the latter, in the season 1890–1891, but it also acted as a fertilizer, renewing the exhausted ground by leaving a fertile deposit, and the last wheat harvest was very good. The standing crop of mealies promises to be an exceptionally fine one. The ravages by locusts were not so extensive as was anticipated.

3.—*Stock Farming.*

The efforts to stamp out the lung sickness were successful, and I am glad to be able to report that we have been comparatively free from horse sickness ; only two or three cases were reported from our district. The drought, which was beginning to be severely felt, is now completely broken up, a rainfall of 3·13 inches being registered for the month of March at Upington.

4.—*Trade.*

Trade is steadily increasing, as may be seen by comparing the trading licences issued during the two last financial years.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Issued during 1890–1891 - -	192	10	0
„ „ 1891–1892 - -	371	10	0

A great drawback to the prosperity of this district is the difficulty of crossing the Orange River from the Colony. The only way of crossing is by means of boats, a waggon having to be taken to pieces and thus ferried across.

At Upington especially the difficulty of crossing is great, and traffic will always be more or less impeded, even if there were a good pont, by two spruits and arms of the Orange River, which must be crossed before coming to the main stream, and which are often impassable. Only by means of a bridge can permanent communication with the Cape Colony be maintained.

5.—*Postal Matters.*

During the past year another post office agency at Kumoso, was established, and others will soon become necessary, as trade extends northwards into Namaqualand, and the newly annexed district along the 20th meridian.

6.—*Crimes.*

Owing to the influx of a mixed population, crime is, I am sorry to say, on the increase; but it is in a great measure checked by the presence of the detachment of Bechuanaland Border Police in charge of their efficient officer, Lieutenant C. MacGregor.

7.—*Religion and Education.*

The Dutch Reformed Mission is doing a prosperous work amongst the coloured inhabitants, under the able supervision of the Reverend Mr. Schroeder.

A plot of ground was granted by Government for the purpose of erecting a Dutch Reformed Church and parsonage in the township of Upington, and as farmers are coming into the district, we may soon hope to see the chapel built.

The three mission schools, two of which are aided by Government, are well attended. A school for European children is urgently required; many of them now attend the mission schools.

8.—*Neighbours.*

The relations with our neighbours to the west, namely the Namaqua tribe, called Boudelzwarts, were of the most amicable nature. The Namaqua Chieftain, Hendrick Witbovy, still continues to keep Damaraland in a disturbed state by periodical raids; but they do not affect the tranquility on our borders in the slightest degree.

C. BAM,
Upington, 29th March 1892. ivil Commissioner and
Resident Magistrate.

REPORT OF THE DISTRICT SURGEON, VRYBURG.

SIR, Vryburg, March 31, 1892.

I HAVE the honour to submit, for the information of His Honour the Administrator, that during the last 18 months the district and township of Vryburg has been, notwithstanding the large floating population caused by the construction of the railway, exceptionally healthy.

BRITISH BECHUANALAND

2. During this period I have to record the following zymotic diseases which occurred in the township:—Two cases of enteric fever, one of which was contracted at Kimberley, an epidemic of whooping cough, diphtheria, and influenza, the latter, so far, being of a very mild nature.

3. I consider that the Contagious Diseases Act ought to be enforced at the native location, Vryburg, owing to the large number of native servants (employed by the inhabitants) residing there, and that the public should have some protection against the spread of syphilis which is frequently effected through those servants attending children. In one case eight children of one family alone suffered several months from this fell disease which was contracted through a native servant.

4. The health of the convicts at the central gaol has been excellent, with the exception of an outbreak of scurvy among the native prisoners, that being the only zymotic disease occurring among them. The trivial cases average three per diem.

During this period four deaths occurred in the gaol hospital, viz.:—Two native pauper patients and two native convicts.

The diet of the convicts has been improved. The cells and yards are kept in good order.

5. I consider it advisable that a registration of births and deaths for the township and district of Vryburg be instituted. For the township the Secretary of the Village Management Board, and in the district the field cornets of the various wards, could act as registrars.

I have, &c.

WILSON M. NUGENT,
District Surgeon, Vryburg.

The Secretary, Vryburg.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DISTRICT SURGEON OF MAFEKING, BECHUANALAND, 1ST OCTOBER 1890 TO 31ST MARCH 1892.

During the period the district of Mafeking has continued in its usual healthy condition.

Mild malarial fever, gastro-intestinal catarrh, and catarrhal ophthalmia, appeared during the Spring and Autumn months.

The gastro-intestinal catarrh was somewhat more severe in type than during the previous years.

The majority of cases of fever were imported from the interior.

A few cases of measles, whooping cough, and of mumps are recorded.

The deaths (European) during the period were 15, out of which number two were suicidal and one accidental.

I attach tabular list of those diseases to which interest is attached.

A. PIERCE GREEN,
District Surgeon.

Mafeking, March 31, 1892.

Mafeking, British Bechuanaland.

—	1890–1891.							1891—1892.												Remarks.
	October.	November.	December.	January.	February.	March.	Total.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	January.	February.	March.	Total.	
Remittent fever	4	6	2	4	5	—	21	5	5	4	9	—	5	2	1	5	5	6	4	51	
Intermittent fever	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	2	—	4	
Enteric fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Dysentery	—	—	2	—	—	1	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	1	5	
Gastro-intestinal Catarrh	6	8	4	7	4	5	34	3	10	6	3	2	6	15	18	10	10	4	1	88	
Lotar Pneumonia	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	
Catarrhal Pneumonia	1	—	2	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	
Bronchial Catarrh	6	4	1	3	2	18	34	2	—	2	5	7	4	—	2	1	3	2	4	32	
Acute Rheumatism	1	—	—	2	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	
Muscular Rheumatism	—	—	—	—	2	—	4	3	1	1	2	2	—	2	1	—	1	2	1	16	
Catarrhal Ophthalmia	6	5	4	4	13	—	32	1	4	—	—	—	4	8	11	5	2	10	4	49	
Pertussis	—	2	—	5	1	2	10	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	
Parotitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	4	

Mafeking,
31st March, 1892.

A. Pierce Green, L.R.C.P., &c.,
District Surgeon.

British Bechuana-land.

Report of the Assistant Commissioner for the Bechuanaland Protectorate for the period from the 1st August 1890 to the 31st March 1892.

1. I arrived here from Basutoland and entered upon my duties as Assistant Commissioner for the Protectorate in August 1890. I at once visited and was introduced to the chiefs living in the South-eastern portion of the Protectorate.

2. In the following October His Excellency the Governor and High Commissioner held a meeting at Crocodile Pool, situated between this station and Ramoutsa, which was attended by the chiefs of the four tribes in the Southern Protectorate; at this meeting His Excellency explained the policy of the Government with regard to the natives in the Protectorate and then proceeded to Palapye, where he saw the Chief Khama.

3. The principal tribes living in the Protectorate are the Bamangwato, under Khama; the Bakhatla, under Lenchwe; the Bakwena, under Sebele; the Bangwaketse under Bathoen; and the Bamalete, under Ikaneng. These tribes are independent of each other. An inferior class of Natives, called the Bakalahare, live in parts of the Kalahari Desert. Khama, Sebele, and Bathœn exercise chieftainship over such of these as live in the portion of the Desert forming part of the territories claimed by them. There are also other tribes living near Lake Ngami, but I have not yet been able to visit them.

Sechele, the once powerful Chief of the Bakwena, being now very old and incapable of taking any part in the management of the affairs of the tribe, has handed the chieftainship of it to his son, Sebele. He is now confined to his bed, and not likely to live much longer.

4. On my arrival Ikaneng was the recognised Chief of the Bamalete, but in December last the tribe divided, half following Pula to Crocodile Pools, where they are now living, and hal. remaining under Ikaneng at Ramoutsa. These two Chiefs are grandsons of Powe, a former Chief of the tribe, and being unable to settle their dispute about the chieftainship, requested me to decide it for them. After hearing all the evidence obtainable, I decided in favour of Ikaneng, but Pula, being disatisfied, left Ramoutsa and was, as above stated, followed by about half the tribe.

5. At the end of 1890 the Chief Bathoen complained that the Bahurutse of the Chief Gopane's village in the South African Republic were trespassing on his territory. Both chiefs claimed a large strip of land in the Protectorate along the Transvaal boundary opposite Gopane's village. The matter was enquired into, and it was decided that the ground belonged to Bathœn. The Bahurutse were ordered to leave, and did so.

Bathœn has also a dispute with Montsioa, Chief of the Barolong at Mafeking about a large piece of land on the North of

Ramathlabama, extending westward from the Transvaal boundary. This dispute has been going on for several years, but has not yet been settled.

Bathœn also claims the land occupied by the Bamalete from Aasvogel Kop (Oetse) to the junction of the Taung and Notwane Rivers, saying that they obtained permission from his father, Gaseitsive, to live there. He, however, some years ago, attacked the Bamalete with the object of expelling them, but failed to do so, they have consequently claimed the land ever since as theirs by right of conquest.

The Bakwena claim the land occupied by the Bakhatla under Lenchwe, but as for years the former tried to drive the latter out by force of arms without success, Lenchwe also claims the land as his by right of conquest.

The ownership of a large piece of country along the Shashi River is also in dispute between Khama and Lo Bengula.

6. With the exception of a short line from the Notwani River westward, between the territories of the Bangwaketse and the Bakwena, there are, so far as I am aware, no defined boundaries between the country of any one of the tribes and that of the tribes on its borders, where the cattle posts of the one appear to overlap those of the other and cause frequent disputes.

7. The Bakwena and the Bangwakatse are on friendly terms with each other, but beyond this there does not seem to be any very friendly feeling between any of the tribes.

8. Khama appears favourably disposed towards the Government, but the same cannot be said of the other chiefs; they are dissatisfied with being under its authority and wish to be independent, but have hitherto submitted.

Sebele recently opposed the collection of licence money in his country and prevented the payment of a licence by a hawker who was trading at Molepolole. For this offence he was fined ten head of cattle, and the fine was paid.

For rescuing cattle out of a pound in the Transvaal twelve of the Bamalete were fined five pounds sterling each, and paid the fines.

For embezzling a trader's goods with which he had been entrusted, one of the Bangwaketse was adjudged to pay the trader seventy pounds sterling, and he did so.

The British South Africa Company's telegraph wire now runs right through the Protectorate from Ramathlabama to Tuli, passing through the territories of all the chiefs, but no authenticated instance has come under my notice in which the wire has been tampered with by Natives. Before my arrival the Chief Lenchwe strongly objected to having a telegraph office built in his village, and during his absence his brother and people prevented its erection by the construction party, but he afterwards consented, and the office was established there in March, 1891. Since then he has given no trouble with regard to the telegraph.

BRITISH BECHUANALAND.

When it became necessary to change the postal route, in consequence of the mules on the Marico road having an infectious disease, he at first objected to the carts running through his village, but consented to it, on my arranging that the cart should not travel at a quicker pace than a walk over the very narrow winding part of the road through the village.

9. There is a very great scarcity of water in the Protectorate, and the natives frequently object to travellers taking water in the dry season from pits which they have dug for their own use.

The British South Africa Company have sunk wells at six places along the main road from Ramathlabama to Ramoutsa, at five of which they have succeded in obtaining a good supply of water, but at Boulder Pits, though they sank two wells there, they did not find any water.

At four places, on main roads leading north from Ramoutsa, wells were also sunk by Government, at two of which no water at all was found, at a third only very brackish water was obtained, and in the first well sunk at this station a good supply of pure water was found, but the exceptionally heavy rains in the early part of last year destroyed it, and a second well, nearer the Fort, was sunk, but no water found in it.

Experience has shown that water cannot be obtained at any place in the Protectorate by sinking reasonable depths, and that at many places hard rock, mostly granite, lies under the surface of the ground.

10. Concessions have been granted by each of the Chiefs to prospect and search in their territories for gold and precious stones, but so far as I am aware nothing very valuable has yet been found.

Trading and other concessions have also been obtained by different parties from several of the Chiefs who receive payment for them from those to whom they have been granted.

11. Religious and educational work is being carried on with more or less success amongst each of the different tribes by missionaries mostly belonging to the London Missionary Society, but the minister at Mochudi belongs to the Dutch Reformed Church, and the one at Ramoutsa to the German missionaries.

Owing to a difference between the Rev. J. D. Hepburn and the Chief Khama the former has left Palapye, after being the Chief's missionary for over 20 years.

12. In consequence, I believe, of the unusually heavy rains last year, fever was very prevalent, especially along the Notwane and Crocodile Rivers, and many natives died of it. This season being a dry one, there has not been so much of it except at Palapye, where many cases have, I am told, ended fatally this year also. A great many deaths have occurred amongst the Natives at Kanya from dysentery, which it is generally believed is caused by the filthy state in which the large villages are kept in which the Natives in the Protectorate live, combined with the scarcity of water at most of them during dry seasons.

13. Last year's crops of mealies and Kafir corn were exceptionally good throughout the territory, but they have almost entirely failed this season in consequence of insufficient rain. The Natives, however, have sufficient from last year to keep them from want for some time to come.

14. Crime, so far as I have been able to judge, does not seem to be prevalent, and stock thefts by Natives living in the country are very rare. Lost stock are as a rule always found. Most offences that have come under my notice have been committed by persons living outside the Protectorate, and Native servants engaged in the Cape Colony or British Bechuanaland to go to Mashonaland, frequently desert their masters while passing through the Protectorate. These offenders find it easy to escape justice in a bush country like this, where the distances between police stations are so great, and where the main transport road from Ramathlabama to Tuli runs within a short distance of the border of the Transvaal, with which State we have no extradition treaty.

15. There are three troops of the Bechuanaland Border Police stationed at Macloutsi, and one here; there are also small detachments, consisting mostly of two men, of this force at each of the following places, viz.:—

Ramathlabama, Ramoutsa, Kanya, Molepolole, Mochudi, Palla, Seleka, and Palapye.

Many horses died of horse-sickness last year, but up to the present the sickness has been very mild this season.

16. During the period under report, I have only been able to visit Palapye three times. My staff consists of a clerk, an interpreter, and a driver. With such a small staff it is impossible for me to keep in touch with the many independent Chiefs or to exercise anything like efficient control over such a vast country as the Protectorate. There should be a magistrate and a few police with each of the principal Chiefs, or at least with Khama, Sebele, and Bathœn. I also think it very desirable to have some Native Police; besides being much less expensive than Europeans, they would be most useful on account of their knowledge of the Sechuana language and of the habits and customs of the Natives, and by means of them more accurate information of what is going on in the country could be obtained than we are now able to get.

17. Under the provisions of His Excellency the High Commissioner's Proclamation of the 10th June last, a beginning has been made in the collection of Revenue, and the amount received by me in the Southern Protectorate up to date amounts to 443*l.* 7*s.* 2*d.* sterling, as follows:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Licences - - - -	379	0	0
Judicial Fines - - -	55	15	0
Stamps - - - -	6	5	8
Fees - - - -	2	6	6
	443	7	2

BRITISH BECHUANALAND.

The Revenue in the Northern Protectorate is collected by the magistrate at Macloutsie.

Gaberones, 31st March, 1892.

(Signed) W. H. SURMON, Assistant Commissioner.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BECHUANALAND BORDER POLICE, 1891–92.

The Annual Report of the Bechuanaland Border Police for 1891–92 is compiled from 1st April 1891 to 31st March 1892. A special report from 15th August 1890 to 31st March 1892 is appended.

I.—*Strength.*

The strength of the regiment last year on 31 March 1891 was as follows :—

5 troops, consisting of 19 officers, 408 non commissioned officers and troopers; total, all ranks, 427.

One troop, consisting of 3 officers, 90 non-commissioned officers and troopers, was stationed in Bechuanaland.

One troop, consisting of 4 officers, 88 non-commissioned officers and troopers, was stationed in the Southern Protectorate.

The remaining 3 troops were stationed in the Northern Protectorate.

II.—*Increase of Strength.*

An increase of the corps by one lieutenant, 25 non-commissioned officers and troopers, was sanctioned by Her Majesty's Government in May, 1891.

One ordnance and commissariat officer with the rank of captain, and one additional staff sergeant for the troop in Bechuanaland was added to the establishment in August, 1891, the establishment being thereby augmented to 26 officers 452 non-commissioned officers and troopers. Total 478 all ranks.

His Excellency the High Commissioner sanctioned the raising of 40 additional men for service in Bechuanaland in May, 1891, but in July ordered the corps to be reduced to its proper establishment of 478 all ranks.

III.—*Appointments, Promotions, Resignations.*

The following appointments, &c. have taken place during the year :—

H. Greener, Esq., appointed paymaster, *vice* Macpherson resigned, 1st April 1891.

Captain W. H. Sitwell, P.S.C., Northumberland Fusiliers, appointed adjutant, *vice* Coleman resigned, 20th March 1891.

Sub-lieutenant A. Walsh, promoted lieutenant on augmentation 2nd May 1891.

Lieutenant C. L. D. Munro, 3rd Battalion Argyle and Sutherland Highlanders, appointed sub-lieutenant, *vice* Walsh promoted, 6th May 1891.

Troop Sergeant-Major Gerald Ellis promoted sub-lieutenant, *vice* Dobson resigned, 11th June 1891.

Lieutenant A. P. W. Williams, Hants Artillery Militia, appointed sub-lieutenant *vice* Pemberton promoted, 12th July 1891.

Charles Goodyear, Esq., appointed Ordnance and Commissariat officer 6th August 1891.

Lieutenant G. P. L. Pemberton resigns 25th November 1891.

Sub-lieutenant Gerald Ellis promoted lieutenant *vice* Pemberton resigned, 26th November 1891.

Captain C. E. Laurie resigns 4th January 1892.

Troop Sergeant-Major J. A. H. Walford, promoted sub-lieutenant *vice* Ellis promoted, 9th March 1892.

Captain S. D. Browne, R.A., appointed captain, *vice* Laurie resigned, 31st March 1892.

IV.—*Present Strength.*

The force now consists of 5 troops, and the following was the strength on 31st March 1892.

1	Colonel Commandant.
2	Majors.
5	Captains.
6	Lieutenants.
5	Sub-Lieutenants.
1	Captain and Adjutant.
1	Lieutenant and Quartermaster.
1	Paymaster.
1	Ordnance and Commissariat Officer.
2	Surgeons.
1	Veterinary Sub-lieutenant.
436	Non-commissioned Officers and Troopers.
462	Grand Total all ranks.

V.—*Promotions.*

The promotions during the year have been principally by selection.

VI.—*Discharges.*

The number of men discharged on the expiration of service compare avourably with last year.

BRITISH BECHUANALAND.

Of the men discharged by permission of the commanding officer or by purchase, the greater number were granted the indulgence in order to reduce the corps to its normal strength, on the termination of the Boer trek.

Of the men discharged medically unfit the large number is attributable to the hasty augmentation of the corps in May 1891, recruits being sent up in large numbers who afterwards proved unsuited to the climate.

Of the men discharged by order of the commanding officer, some were discharged as being unsuited to the duties they were required to perform, and others for misconduct, it being undesirable to retain men of indifferent character, or who do not show an aptitude for the service.

VII.—*Desertions.*

Of the six desertions, one man deserted in April, from Gaberones, taking all his clothing with him. Two mounted men were sent in pursuit but failed to get any tidings of him.

One man deserted from the Border Station in Bechuanaland 14th September 1891, and took with him one Government horse and one private horse, and the whole of his equipment. Three men were sent after him into the Transvaal, but only succeeded in recovering the Government horse, which was found at a post-station of the Johannesburg coach.

A recruit of three months' service deserted from Mafeking in September, 1891, taking nothing with him, he has not since been heard of.

The fourth case was that of a prisoner under sentence of six months' imprisonment with hard labour, who broke out of hospital at Macloutsie before daybreak on 13th October 1891.

Experienced men were sent after him at once, but lost his spoor about 16 miles from camp. All roads and drifts on the Crocodile were carefully watched until it was reported that he had crossed into the Transvaal between Rhodes' Drift and Morrison's Store on the night of the 19th October.

His arrest was not attempted in the Transvaal, as he had no Government property on him.

One man of indifferent character deserted from Macloutsi 3rd January 1892; he took no Government property, and was not pursued.

A man of good character went on a shooting trip on 1st January 1892 for twelve days, and has not since been heard of, though every endeavour was made to find him.

From information since received it is believed that he intended deserting. He took no Government property with him.

I consider the discipline of the corps to be most satisfactory, which is mainly due to the good feeling which exists between the troop officers and their men, and the high state of efficiency of the non-commissioned officers.

VIII.—*Deaths.*

I regret to report the following deaths:—

Trooper Fluke died at Macloutsi, 28th June 1891, from natural causes.

Trooper Haynes was drowned at Pudum on 5th September 1891.

Trooper Smith committed suicide at Mafeking, 18th September 1891.

Lance-corporal Hepper died at Tuli from lock-jaw, the result of a fall from his horse, 27 October 1891.

Trooper Seale committed suicide at Macloutsi, 27th January 1892.

IX.—*Natives.*

The native strength consisted on 31st March 1892 of 86 Native Drivers and Leaders, and were distributed as follows viz:—

Bechuanaland - - - -	9
Southern Protectorate - - -	10
Northern Protectorate - - -	67

but the numbers at headquarters are constantly fluctuating owing to the restless disposition of the Mangwate and Matabele races, desertions being frequent.

X.—*Transport.*

The transport of the Corps consists of:—

24 Wagons.
12 Water carts.
6 Scotch carts.

These are in constant use and considering the incessant wear and tear required to keep all out-stations victualled, and the heavy fatigues in the vicinity of the camp, are in fair order.

The heavy cost of repairing transport wagons has been considerably reduced, skilled workmen being enrolled and detailed specially for this work.

XI.—*Horse Strength.*

The number of Government horses on the strength on the 31st March 1891 was 192, since which 242 have been bought. Of these 37 were guaranteed salted, and cost an average of 42*l.*, the remainder averaging 18*l.*

146 horses have died from horse sickness, 12 have been destroyed suffering from farcy, and 15 died from natural causes, 15 were cast, and 4 were lost.

It will thus be seen that horse sickness still causes the majority of casualties.

BRITISH BECHUANALAND.

The present strength and distribution is as follows viz. :—

Bechuanaland - - - -	107
Southern Protectorate - - -	67
Northern Protectorate - - -	68
Total	242

XII.—*Horse Sickness.*

On 8th November 1891 Mr. Strombom was authorised by his Excellency the High Commissioner to treat unsalted horses at Macloutsie with a remedy which he claimed to be efficacious as a preventative against horse sickness.

Twenty-eight horses were put under his treatment, 14 of these died from horse sickness between 28th November 1891 and 31st March 1892 during the following months viz. :—

November - - - - -	1
December - - - - -	3
January - - - - -	2
February - - - - -	–
March - - - - -	8

A further report will be furnished at the conclusion of the treatment.

I attribute the small number dying from horse sickness at Macloutsie compared with past years, to the unusal dryness of the season, and I have remarked that after periods of drought a shower of rain is almost invariably followed by an outbreak of at least one or two cases of horse sickness.

It is remarkable that at Gaberones there has not been a single case of horse sickness between the period of the 7th June 1891 and 31st March 1892.

XIII.—*Transport Animals.*

The Mule strength on 31st March 1891 was 41, and was distributed as follows :—

Bechuanaland - - - -	35
Head Quarters - - - -	6

since which 8 have been bought, and 5 died and one lost.

The present mule strength and distribution is as follows, viz. :—

Bechuanaland. - - - -	35
Head Quarters. - - - -	8
Total	43

The ox strength on 31st March 1891 was 333, since which date 123 have been purchased, 84 died, 5 lost, and 28 sold, bringing present strength to 339.

But of this number many animals are old and will shortly require to be cast.

XIV.—*Equipment.*

The equipment of the corps is in serviceable condition, and of good quality. The only alteration is an issue of black leather leggings, which was made to the troops in the Protectorate in June, 1891. They have proved very serviceable, and constitute, without doubt, the best equipment for this service.

XV.—*Forage.*

The forage of the regiment is supplied by the Ordnance and Commissariat Officer, who performs this duty, formerly carried out by the Government Storekeeper of British Bechuanaland. The quality of the forage is good. Oats have been largely substituted for mealies, with very satisfactory results.

XVI.—*Armament.*

The armament of the corps on the 31st March 1891, was six 7-pounders of 200 lbs. mounted on Colonial field carriages, one 7-pounder Naval pattern, three Maxim guns, and two Nordenfeldts.

In July, 1891, a 7-pounder R.B.L. screw-gun of 400 lbs., with mule equipment, was lent to the troops at headquarters by the British South Africa Company's Police at Tuli.

In September, 1891, two 7-pounder R.M.L. screw-guns of 400 lbs., with mule equipment complete, were received from England.

In November, 1891, a Gatling gun was lent, together with 1,200 rounds of ammunition, to the troops at head-quarters by the Tati Concession.

All the foregoing are now at Macloutsi with the exception of one 7-pounder, Naval pattern, two Nordenfeldts, and one Maxim, which are at Gaberones, and two 7-pounders, one field carriage, lent to the British South Africa Company, and still on their charge.

Small Arms.

On 31st March 1891, the following small arms were in possession of the Corps:— 879 M.H. rifles, 217 Sniders, 26 revolvers, and 299 bayonets, and ammunition as follows:—

Martini-Henry	-	50,222 rounds
Snider	-	28,640 „
Revolver	-	1,226 „
Carbine	-	2,590 „
Westly Richards	-	11,930 „
Maxim	-	26,450 „

BRITISH BECHUANALAND.

The small arms in possession on 31st March 1892, are as follows:—

792 Martini-Henry rifles, 217 Sniders, 23 revolvers, and 345 bayonets, and ammunition as follows:—

Martini-Henry - - -	452,839	rounds.
Snider - - - -	23,540	„
Revolver - - -	1,100	„
Carbine - - -	2,590	„
Westly Richards - -	—	
Maxim - - - -	21,552	„

XVII.—*Special Employment.*

In April 1891, 5 men were employed in Matabeleland as escort to the Assistant Commissioner at Buluwayo.

They returned to head-quarters 24th December 1891, on the departure of the Assistant Commissioner from that country.

XVIII.—*Regimental Works.*

During the past year, in addition to re-roofing and repairing their own huts and stables, the troops at head-quarters have prepared a site for a township and have improved the roads in the vicinity of the station, cutting new ones where necessary.

A new forage store has been erected, and an additional magazine has been constructed in the fort for artillery ammunition.

A new canteen and recreation room has been constructed, and new huts for officers and sergeants' messes have also been built at head-quarters.

The barracks at Mafeking have been repaired and partially rebuilt, and are now in excellent order.

The huts at Gaberones have been repaired and new recreation rooms hav been made.

A large stone hut has been built at Palla for the accommodation of the detachment there stationed.

XIX.—*Moves.*

In consequence of the organization of a Boer trek into Mashonaland, the corps was called upon, in May 1891, to make preparation to resist any violation of the Eastern frontier of the Protectorate and disputed territory, and to assist the British South Africa Company's troops, if necessary, north of the Shashi.

For this purpose the garrison in the Northern Protectorate was strengthened by detachments from the troops in Bechuanaland and the Southern Protectorate, consisting of 3 officers and 98 non-commissioned officers and men.

The following defensive posts were established on the Limpopo River and garrisoned by troops from head-quarters.

Baines's Drift.

A small redoubt, held by 1 officer and 30 men from 4th May until 19th August.

Rhodes' Drift.

A small redoubt, held by 2 officers and 40 non-commissioned officers and men from 16th May until 18th August.

A detachment, consisting of 1 officer and 40 men, was sent to assist in the defence of Tuli, and a small flying column was kept in constant readiness at head-quarters to proceed in any direction.

In October all troops had returned or were returning to their original stations.

The rapidity with which the orders were carried out, and the intelligence and adaptability to circumstances shown by the officers and men employed at the advanced posts was in every way satisfactory. The frontier was patrolled in a systematic and regular manner, and a chain of communication was readily established over some 200 miles of country.

1 officer and 30 non-commissioned officers and men from Mafeking, and 1 officer and 40 non-commissioned officers and men from head-quarters, were despatched to Gaberones in February, 1892, in connection with Mr. Surmon's visit to Molopolole to interview Sechele.

XX.—*Out-Stations.*

The following out-stations in the Northern Protectorate have been occupied during the past year :—

Semilali, Grobler's Drift, Tati Junction Post, Palapye, Elebe, Selika and Palla, in addition to two temporary despatch riders stations on the Macloutsie River.

The necessity for closely watching main roads and approaches having passed, the following out-stations are now alone retained :—

Tati Junction Post, Palapye, Selika and Palla.

The following out-stations, have been maintained in the Southern Protectorate :—

Ramoutsa, Molepolole, Kanya, and Mochudi.

In Bechuanaland the following out-stations have been maintained :—

Vryburg, Gordonia, Pitsani, Moroquen, Border, Schaapfontein, Taungs, Kuruman, Ramatlabama, Langberg, Ganesa, Tweeling's Pan, Dry Hartz and Setlagoli.

XXI.—*Special Patrols.*

(Extract.)

Sub-Lieutenant Ellis and two men were sent to Tati, 25th June 1891, and returned 16th July.

On 18th July patrols were sent as follows :—

Lieutenant Ellis, and 2 men to Tati, viâ Elebe and Palapye.

A corporal and 3 men to Palapye, viâ cross roads.

A Corporal and 3 men to Semilato, viâ Grobler's Drift.

BRITISH BECHUANALAND

On the 12th August 1891, Lieutenant Ellis was again sent to Tati, to obtain information about the Tati Concession. He returned 5th September 1891.

In October, Sub-Lieutenant Marsham proceeded in charge of specie from Mafeking to Palapye, and there paid Khama's men who had been employed, on the extension of the telegraph line from Tuli to Victoria.

On the 13th February, Lieutenant Ellis proceeded to Buluwayo, with a message from His Excellency the High Commissioner to the Chief Lo Bengula. He returned 5th March.

On 3rd March Captain Fuller, and 25 non-commissioned officers and men, left Gaberones for Molepolole as escort to Mr. Surmon, Assistant Commissioner, on the occasion of his interview with Sechele.

On the completion of this duty Captain Fuller and his party returned to their stations, in Bechuanaland.

XXII.—*Health.*

I attach reports from the Medical Officers at Macloutsie, and Gaberones, and the report of the district surgeon at Mafeking.

It will be noticed, that the cases treated at Macloutsie during 1891–1892, are in excess of the previous year.

As the Medical Officer points out, this is no doubt greatly due to the fact that a large majority of recruits, now joining, are young men from England, who are more easily affected at first by the climate than Colonial men.

The majority of cases, however, have been slight attacks of fever, from which healthy men rapidly recover, without any injury to their general health and constitutions.

Cases of dysentery, I am glad to say, are now of rare occurrence, and those that are reported during 1891–1892, were of light character, and this fact I think may be attributed to further clearing of the bush in the vicinity of the Camp, and increased measures taken for the comfort and health of the troops.

I have no hesitation in saying that Macloutsie, taking into consideration the latitude in which it lies, has proved itself to be a most healthy station, and far more so than most other parts of this country.

I would draw your Honour's attention to the aluable services of the hospital nurses, who have been at Macloutsie since the station was established. On them the heavy work of attending the sick has entirely fallen, and their care and unremitting attention is beyond all praise.

At Gaberones the number of cases treated appear to be large, but the majority of these were of little consequence, very few

serious cases having occurred. This station may be said to be extremely healthy.

In Bechuanaland there is no police medical officer, the services of the district surgeons being obtained where necessary.

The health of the men stationed in that country has been excellent, and it has been found that men suffering from the effects of the climate in the Protectorate rapidly recover, when sent to Mafeking.

I wish specially to bring to your Honour's notice the good services performed by Drs. Vigne and Green.

Dr. Vigne's duties have been exceptionally heavy, and they have been carried out entirely to my satisfaction.

The attention and care given to the Police Sick by the District Surgeon at Mafeking is also most satisfactory.

XXIII.—*Summary.*

Dealing generally with the report, I consider the results of the past year to be most satisfactory.

In the tabular statements attached, the period of 1891–92, compares favourably under each head with former years.

The efficiency of the corps has undoubtedly increased, and the system of interior economy has been considerably improved. Although small in numbers, the influence of the corps is felt over a very large area of country, and this is mainly due to the intelligent manner in which the lower ranks perform the varied duties that are required of them.

The character of the corps is now firmly established, with the result that a large number of eligible men offer their services, and a better selection is able to be made than formerly.

I would strongly recommend that the period of service should now be increased for both officers and men, for I am confident that if this was done, there would be no scarcity of recruits, and the efficiency of the force would be greatly increased.

In concluding this report, I have great satisfaction in bringing to your Honour's notice the excellent manner in which the officers and staff have performed their duties.

By their efforts the "morale" of the corps has been brought to a high standing, and by their energy and intelligence the satisfactory results of the past year have been accomplished.

(Signed) RALEIGH GREY, Major,
Commanding Bechuanaland
Border Police.

Macloutsie,
April 1, 1892.

BRITISH BECHUANALAND.

The Commanding Officer Bechuanaland Border Police,

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to report for your information that the health of Macloutsie Camp during the last twelve or fifteen months has been very good, and compares favourably with that of previous years. Of the three deaths that took place here during the above-mentioned time not one could be attributed to the unhealthy condition of this place, one having been brought in from Myshwe in a dying condition, one died suddenly and one from suicide.

The number of patients treated during the past year is considerably in excess of that of 1890 and 1891, which is explained by detachments of "A" and "K" troops having been sent up, also a greater portion of the men now going in are only recently out from England and consequently more liable to fever than men who have been out some time. For futher particulars I beg to refer you to the annual hospital report.

The healthy condition of the camp is due to the satisfactory condition of the water, though, I am of opinion, were the men better housed and less crowded, matters might be greatly improved.

As regards the Hospital there is not much more required; when the roofing is seen to it will be as comfortable as possible.

In conclusion I must say that too much praise cannot be given to the Dominican Sisters for their unremitting attention to the patients, and that their speedy recovery has been mainly due to their efforts.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. VIGNE,
Medical Officer,
Bechuanaland Border Police.

Annual Sick Report Bechuanaland Border Police, Macloutsie.

	Cases treated in Hospital.			Cases treated as Out-patients.			Grand total of patients treated.
Year ending March 31st.	1890.	1891.	1892.	1890.	1891.	1892.	
Number of cases treated suffering from fever -	76	168	107	14	31	27	423
Number of cases treated suffering from dysentery	17	16	17	11	—		64
Number of cases treated suffering from other causes - - -	56	63	66	479	545	793	2,002
Deaths - - -	3	4	2 (one death was a case of suicide)	—	—	—	9
Discharged medically unfit - - -	2	1	5	—	—	—	8
Total number treated in hospital and as out-patients - - -	149	247	190	504	576	823	2,506

MEDICAL REPORT FOR THE SOUTHERN PROTECTORATE FROM APRIL 1ST, 1891, TO JANUARY 31st, 1892.

To the Officer Commanding "K" Troop.

SIR, Fort Gaberones, February 9, 1892.

IN accordance with your request I beg to forward the following report:—

The health of the men stationed at Gaberones has on the whole been good.

This I attribute to the healthy situation of the camp, and to the fact that owing to the heavy rains of last year, the water supply has been plentiful and of good quality.

But few cases of fever have occurred and those not of a severe type.

The rather numerous cases of diarrhœa are chiefly caused by indiscretion on the part of the men themselves, and cannot be referred to any specific cause.

In the month of June I received instructions to proceed to Palla Camp, in order to attend to two men who were stationed there, both men were suffering from fever.

Since, however, the camp has been moved to higher ground and a more healthy situation, in all probability there will be less sickness this year.

Patients have also been attended to at the Mochudi, and Ramoutsa out-stations, for slight ailments.

The supply of medicines and medical stores, including a requisition which will be here in a few days' time, is good and sufficient to last for a considerable period.

Sick Report from April 1st 1891, to January 31st, 1892.

Patients attended in hospital:—

For fever	20
„ diarrhœa	5
Various ailments	15
Total	40

Out-patients:—

Diarrhœa	15
Various ailments	108
Total	123

Total number of patients attended during period, 163.

I have, &c.

(Signed) QUINTEN R. VEITCH,
Medical Officer,
Bechuanaland Border Police.

Medical Officer in charge of Southern Protectorate.

BRITISH BECHUANALAND.

MEDICAL REPORT "A" TROOP BECHUANALAND BORDER POLICE.

The Officer Commanding "A" Troop, Bechuanaland Border Police.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to report that during the period of 1st April 1891 to 31st January 1892, the daily average of men reported sick at this station was 8·5 per cent.

This somewhat high rate is accounted for by the fact that men are sent here from the up-country stations either sick, as convalescents for transfer to "A" Troop, or discharged as medically unfit for service.

The chief causes of sickness were gastro-intestinal catarrh, malarial, remittent fever, and catarrhal ophthalmia.

Thirty-three cases were admitted to hospital.

With the exception of one case of suicide no deaths occurred during the period.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) A. GREEN,
Mafeking, March 12, 1892. District Surgeon.

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT, BECHUANALAND BORDER POLICE, 15TH AUGUST 1890 TO 31ST MARCH 1892.

The supplementary report of the Bechuanaland Border Police for the period from 15th August 1890 to 31st March 1892 gives details and particulars of events already recorded in tabular statements contrasting financial years 1889–90–91.

I.—*Appointments, Promotions, &c.*

The following appointments, resignations, &c., have taken place during this period: Lieutenant R. H. Carr-Ellison, the Royal Dragoons, appointed Captain *vice* Coleman appointed Adjutant, 28th September 1890.

A. Vigne, Esq., M.B., appointed Surgeon on augmentation, 5th October 1890.

Captain Bates resigned 30th October 1890.

Captain E. H. Macpherson resigns, 12th December 1890.

Captain F. MacAdam resigns, 16th February 1890.

Sub-Lieutenant Dobson resigns, 22nd February 1890.

Captain J. R. Scott, 3rd Hussars, appointed Captain, *vice* Bates resigned, 3rd March 1890.

Farrier-Major Bodilly appointed Veterinary Sub-Lieutenant on augmentation 6th March 1890.

Lieutenant Hon. D. Marsham, 4th Battalion Bedfordshire Regiment, appointed Sub-Lieutenant on augmentation 10th March 1890.

Captain Hon. C. J. Coventry, promoted Captain, *vice* MacAdam resigned, 26th March 1890.

Sub-Lieutenant A. Snow promoted Lieutenant, *vice* Master of Elphinstone, deceased, 26th March 1890.

II.—*Desertions.*

On the 24th August 1890 Trooper Ayrer deserted from Macloutsie, taking his kit with him ; he has not since been heard of.

On 1st November 1890 two men deserted from Gaberones. Patrols were sent out in search of them, but without success. They took no Government property with them.

On October 1st, 1890, one man deserted from Gaberones; he took no Government property, and has not since been heard of.

III.—*Deaths.*

I regret to report that during this period the following deaths took place:—Trooper J. Johnson died at Gaberones on 8th October 1890 from fever.

Rev. W. Trusted, chaplain, died at Tuli from fever and dysentery, 23rd October 1890.

Lieutenant the Master of Elphinstone died at Palla, 10th November 1890, from dysentery.

Corporal G. Fox was accidentally killed by a wagon running over him at Palla, 9th March 1891.

IV.—*Inspection.*

On October 4th 1890, His Excellency the High Commissioner, accompanied by His Honour the Administrator and Staff, left Vryburg on a tour through Bechuanaland and the Protectorate. His Excellency arrived at headquarters on the 20th October, and during his visit inspected the troops and station, and was pleased to express his satisfaction at what he saw. His Excellency left Macloutsi on October 27th on his return journey, and inspected the troops at Gaberones in the Southern Protectorate *en route*. A small guard from the Corps accompanied His Excellency throughout his tour.

(Signed) RALEIGH GREY, Major,
Commanding Bechuanaland
Border Police.

Macloutsi
1st April 1892.

BRITISH BECHUANA-LAND.

I.—*Strength.*

—	1890.	1891.	1892.
Officers - - - -	17	19	26
Non-commissioned Officers and Troopers - - - -	296	408	436
Total - - - -	313	427	462
A. Troop - - - -	108	93	128
K. Troop - - - -	—	92	90
E. Troop - - - -	103	119	75
F. Troop - - - -	49	61	101
G. Troop - - - -	53	62	68
Horses - - - -	101	192	242

II.—*Strength.*

Increase and Decrease.	Field Officers.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Sub-Lieutenants.	Staff.	Total Officers.	Staff Sergeants.	Troop Sergeant-Majors.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Shoeing Smiths.	Troopers.	Total Non-commissioned Officers and Men.	Grand Total.
Strength on 1st April 1891 -	3	4	5	4	3	19	4	5	4	25	5	365	408	427
Appointments - - -	—	—	—	3	4	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7
Promotions - - -	—	1	2	—	—	3	5	3	7	19	3	—	37	40
Reductions - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	4	4
Reversions - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1
Recruits - - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	212	212	212
Increase - -	—	1	2	3	4	10	5	3	7	19	3	217	254	264

Increase and Decrease.	Field Officers.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Sub-Lieutenants.	Staff.	Total Officers.	Staff Sergeants.	Troop Sergeants.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Shoeing Smiths.	Troopers.	Total Non-commissioned Officers and Men.	Grand Total.
Resignations	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Promotions	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	—	4	9	—	34	47	49
Appointments	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	2
Reversions	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	5	2	—	9	9
Reductions	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	—	—	4	4
Discharges — By request	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	52	55	55
Discharges — Misconduct	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	31	31	31
Discharges — Medically unfit	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	29	29	29
Desertions	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	6	6
Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	5	5
Expirations of service	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	1	32	37	37
Decrease	—	—	1	2	—	3	3	4	6	20	3	189	225	228
Total	3	5	6	5	7	26	6	4	5	24	5	393	436	462

VI.—*Discharges.*

—	1889–90.	1890–91.	1891–92.
Expiration of service	33	62	37
Permission	67	37	55
Medically unfit	13	10	29
By order Commissioned Officer	21	17	25
By Order Board or on Conviction Resident Magistrate	4	3	6
Total	131	129	152

VII. and VIII.—*Desertions and Deaths.*

—	1889–90.	1890–91.	1891–92.
Desertions	23	9	6
Deaths	5	6	5

Convictions.

—	1889-90.	1890-91.	1891-92.
By Boards of Officers and Magistrates -	4	11	10

IX.—*Native Strength.*

—	1890.	1891.	1892.
Head Quarters - - -	52	66	67
A. Troop - - - -	6	10	9
K. Troop - - - -	—	7	10
Total - - - -	58	83	86

X.—*Transport.*

—	1890	1891.	1892.
Wagons - - - -	22	24	24
Carts - - - - -	5	5	6
Water Carts - - - -	10	12	12

XI.—*Horse Strength.*

—	1889-90.	1890-91.	1891-92.
Taken on - - - -	399	367	242
Struck off - - - -	308	274	192
Died - - - - -	262	229	161
Horse Sickness - -	217	166	146
Other causes - - - -	45	43	15
Lost - - - - -	12	43	4
Destroyed - - - -	12	12	12
Cast - - - - -	22	10	15

XII.—*Treated by Mr Strombom.*

—	1891-92.
Horses treated - - -	28
Horses died - - - -	14
Died of horse sickness - -	14
Died of "other causes" - -	—

Horses.—Guaranteed Salted.

Purchased - - - -	37
Average price - - -	£42
Died - - - -	17
Horse sickness - - -	15
Natural causes - - -	2
Lost - - - - -	1
Destroyed - - - -	1

XIII.—*Mule Strength.*

—	1890.	1891.	1892.
Head-quarters - - - -	9	6	8
A. Troop - - - -	71	35	35
K. Troop - - - -	—	—	—
Total - - - -	80	41	43

XIV.—*Ox Strength.*

—	1890.	1891.	1892.
Head quarters - - - -	291	299	257
A. Troop - - - -	49	—	7
K. Troop - - - -	—	34	75
Total - - -	340	333	339

BRITISH BECHUANALAND.

XV.—*Armament.*

Guns.	1890.	1891.	1892.
Seven pounders. R. B. L.	6	6	6
Seven pounders. R. B. L. Screw Gun	—	—	2
Seven pounders. R. M. L. Screw Gun	—	—	1
Naval Pattern	—	1	1
Nordenfelt	—	2	2
Maxim	1	3	3
Gatling	—	—	1

Small Arms—Rifles, &c.

—	1890.	1891.	1892.
Martini-Henry	442	879	792
Snider	—	217	217
Revolvers	15	26	23

Rifles, Ammunition, &c.

—	1890.	1891.	1892.
Martini-Henry	265,087	50,222	452,839
Snider	25,450	23,640	23,540
Westly Richards	11,930	11,930	—
Carbine	2,590	2,590	2,590
Revolver	1,226	1,226	1,100

Rockets.

—	1890.	1891.	1892.
Signal	9,500	1,192	234
War	—	43	35

Ammunition—Gun.

—	1890.	1891.	1892.
Common Shell - - - -	241	338	298
Shrapnell Shell - - -	538	651	575
Case Shot - - - -	76	115	124
Star Shell - - - -	50	68	56
Cartridges - - - -	847	1,161	1,116
Maxim - - - -	1,800	26,450	21,552
Nordenfelt - - - -	—	9,960	9,584
Gatling - - - -	—	—	1,200

Re-attestations—Discharges.

—	1889–90.	1890–91.	1891–92.	1891–92.	
				Re-engaged men.	Men serving on first Engagement.
Re-attested - -	21	72	23	20	8
Discharged - -	33	62	36	16	15
Total - -	54	134	59	36	23

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CEYLON.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1889.

(For Report for 1888 *see* Colonial Report No. 78, Old Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

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1892.

[C.—6563.-14.]

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16	Barbados	,,
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18	Labuan	,,
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28	Gambia	,,
29	Hong Kong	,,

No 30.

CEYLON.

[For Report for 1888 *see* Colonial Report No. 78, Old Series.]

Sir A. E. HAVELOCK to LORD KNUTSFORD.

The Queen's Cottage, Nuwara Eliya,
Ceylon, October 14, 1891.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the Report of the Colonial Secretary on the Blue Book of Ceylon for 1889.

2. The Report was prepared and printed quite a twelvemonth ago, but I find that through a misunderstanding it was not transmitted sooner.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. E. HAVELOCK.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT on the BLUE BOOK of CEYLON for 1889.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

1. The revenue of the Colony received during the year 1889 amounted to Rs. 15,299,877, and the expenditure to Rs. 14,906,281; the corresponding figures for 1888 were Rs. 15,408,812 and Rs. 14,630,120, respectively.

Revenue.

2. The above figures exhibit a reduction in the revenue of Rs. 108,934. This falling off is more than accounted for by the reduction of receipts under the head of pearl fishery, the fishery of 1889 having yielded less than that of 1888 by Rs. 305,110.

3. The increases and decreases under the other heads of revenue are set out in detail and explained by the Auditor-General in his return of June 19, 1890, and appear to call for no further remark.

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Expenditure.

4. The net increase of expenditure under the head "Establishments" in 1889 was Rs. 123,775. The increase is wholly attributable to the completion of the staff of the newly-created forest department, and to the classification under its proper head of "Colombo Harbour" of expenditure which had previously been brought to account in other ways, chiefly under the head of "Miscellaneous Services."

5. Under the head "Services exclusive of Establishments" the apparent increase is Rs. 152,385, but the real increase is very greatly more than this. In the account of expenditure for 1888 credit was taken for a sum of Rs. 750,000, set aside to meet the interest on the loan for railway extension to Haputalé. No similar sum finds a place in the account of expenditure for 1889, so that the actual increase of expenditure on the usual purposes of the Colony was really greater in 1889 than it was in 1888 by a sum of about Rs. 900,000.

6. This increase is accounted for, in the main, and omitting reference to comparatively small items of increase and decrease which tend to balance one another, and which are sufficiently explained in the Auditor-General's printed return, by larger votes on account of hospitals and sanitation to the amount of Rs. 116,825, on account of public works Rs. 338,104, on account of forest services Rs. 179,372, and by increased expenditure by way of interest and in exchange of Rs. 126,836.

7. The last quoted increase is due to the continued depreciation of silver, and is the only head which need be in any sense a source of regret. The increased expenditure on public works, the forest department, the Colombo harbour, and on the extension of hospital accommodation, is of direct advantage to the Colony and its inhabitants.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

9. The assets of the Government on January 1, 1890, amounted to Rs. 9,342,767, and the total liabilities to Rs. 8,235,685, showing an excess of assets over liabilities of Rs. 1,107,082.

PUBLIC DEBT.

10. The debt of the Colony on January 1, 1890, stood at 2,209,727*l.* 15*s.* 1*d.*, as against 2,226,053*l.* 1*s.* 8*d.* in sterling, and Rs. 354,310·91 in silver, as against Rs. 365,000 on the corresponding day of the previous year.

11. The amount paid off on account of the various sterling loans under arrangements for sinking fund was 106,272*l.* 4*s.* 11*d.*; the amount paid off the silver loan was Rs. 10,689·09.

12. The loan for the extension of the railway to Haputalé and to Bentota was not raised, as had been intended, in 1889.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

13. The trade for the year was valued at Rs. 107,619,641·35, as against Rs. 97,908,124·51 in 1888, divided into :—

——	1888.	1889.
	Rs.	Rs.
Imports - - - - -	58,534,987	60,695,135
Exports - - - - -	39,383,134	46,924,505

or, exclusive of specie—

——	1888.	1889.
	Rs.	Rs.
Imports - - - - -	53,314,854	54,170,495
Exports - - - - -	39,292,191	46,098,778

14. The gross Customs revenue for 1889 was Rs. 3,718,152, which, though slightly less than that for 1888, is greatly in excess of that for many previous years.

Imports.

15. The principal imports compare with 1888 as follows :—

——	1888.	1889.
Grain - - - - bushels	6,630,094	6,591,157
Cotton manufactures - - Rs.	5,185,039	4,840,233
Malt liquors, wines, and spirits - ,,	1,211,383	1,210,170
Metals and metal ware - - ,,	1,278,834	1,383,367
Coal and coke - - - tons	284,464	321,015
Specie - - - - Rs.	4,927,066	6,241,571
Machinery - - - ,,	784,359	1,040,258

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Exports.

16. The appended comparative table of exports for 1887, 1888, and 1889 shows the increases and decreases under the most important heads:—

		1887.	1888.	1889.
Coffee	cwt.	181,909	139,109	89,694
Cinchona	lb.	13,113,067	12,499,949	9,455,641
Tea	„	13,834,057	23,820,471	34,346,432
Cacao	cwt.	17,460	12,231	18,849
Cardamoms	lb.	384,015	282,595	466,168
Cocoanut products. Cocoanuts	No.	10,044,329	6,009,156	5,409,962 & pks. 2,764
Cocoanut products. Coir stuffs	cwt.	97,804	112,355	132,396 & pks. 1,681
Cocoanut products. Cocoanut oil	„	323,445	364,116	379,937
Cocoanut products. Copperah	„	136,346	149,005	54,961
Cocoanut products. Arrack	gal.	87,323	98,422	115,042
Cinnamon	lb.	2,046,153	2,040,589	2,562,711
Citronella oil	oz.	8,276,218	11,273,127	10,818,812
Plumbago	cwt.	238,599	223,277	486,139
Tobacco	„	35,954	57,815	52,407
Malt liquor	gal.	175,587	213,846	139,080

SHIPPING.

17. The returns of shipping visiting Ceylon continue to show a progressive increase both in the number and the aggregate tonnage.

PUBLIC WORKS.

18. The total expenditure on public works in 1889 was Rs. 2,907,454. This total may be conveniently divided as under:—

	Rs.	c.
Establishment	299,863	58
Departmental charges	177,457	41
Maintenance and repairs of existing public works and buildings	1,244,363	69
New roads, including additions to existing roads	483,262	45
New bridges	119,224	52
New irrigation works	410,270	68
New buildings, including alterations and additions, and miscellaneous new works not classified above	173,012	31
Total	2,907,454	64

19. Maintenance of public works in the two years 1888 and 1889 compares as under:—

	1888.		1889.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Public buildings - -	124,775	39	135,570	81
Roads - - -	867,033	34	939,464	36
Bridges - - - -	57,646	68	94,353	16
Canals - - - -	28,305	03	27,590	71
Irrigation works - - -	48,340	43	47,384	65
Total - -	1,126,100	87	1,244,363	69

The additional mileage of roads kept up by the Public Works Department in 1889 was 148·63; the roads were maintained at an average of Rs. 303 per mile.

20. The principal works on which expenditure was incurred were:—Under the head of Roads, the Colombo Harbour foreshore work; the Punnalai causeway, which was completed in the year; the Pánaduré-Ratnapura (usually called the Nambápáná) road, which was finished with the exception of two bridges: the road from Wellawáya to Monarágala, in the province of Uva; some roads in the Kalutara tea district; and one road, the Bathford Valley road extension, on the grant-in-aid system, in the Central Province.

One large bridge, the Toppu bridge, on the important road from Negombo to Chilaw, was commenced and nearly completed within the year. Among the other smaller bridges, one in Dikoya was the most important and the most useful.

No large public buildings were undertaken in the course of the year.

The construction of many considerable works of irrigation was in progress during the year. Of these the most important are the restoration of Kanakarayankulam, in the Northern Province; the Eraulla tank, the Bodi-ela, and the Waduwawela-ela, in the Central Province; the Kimbulwana-oya anicut, in the North-Western Province; and Hambagamuwa tank in Uva.

The great work at Ramba Vihara, on the Walawe-ganga, in the Southern Province, which has cost the Government almost exactly Rs. 220,000, was completed, and the development of cultivation and population beneath it may now be confidently looked for.

21. The furniture of the Queen's Houses has been kept in good condition, and the buildings themselves are in a fair state of repair.

COLOMBO HARBOUR.

22. The expenditure on this work for 1889 amounted to Rs. 110,979·31.

The following is the statement of revenue and expenditure on account of the harbour for 1889 :—

RECEIPTS.	Rs.	c.	EXPENDITURE.	Rs.	c.
Colombo harbour dues	521,163	09	Paid Public Works Loan Commissioners on account principal	90,550	24
Pilotage	39,677	0	Do. do. interest	106,427	02
Rent of reclamation ground	8,336	76	Interest on debentures	282,351	77
Sundries	1,854	75	Master attendant	75,071	62
Single rent	124,722	10	Director of public works	36,833	43
			Principal collector of customs	5,224	99
			Engineer of works	152,906	52
			Inspector-General of Police	7,404	75
			Principal Civil Medical Officer	2,247	66
	695,753	70			
Excess of expenditure over receipts	63,264	30			
Total	759,018	0	Total	759,018	0

23. The dredging of the outer harbour by the Merak was brought to a standstill very early in the year by the boilers showing signs of weakness. It was found necessary to renew them, and to repair the vessel, and no further work in this direction was carried on during 1889. The dredging of the inner harbour was, however, continued with success, and a large quantity of material was raised.

24. The usual examination of the harbour was made after the south-west monsoon, and the work was reported to be intact throughout.

SURVEY DEPARTMENT.

25. The work of the Survey Department tends to increase in amount, and to vary greatly in character. It now includes surveys of Crown lands for sale, surveys for irrigation and other public works, for the acquisition of land for public purposes, for forest settlements, and for settlements under the Registration of Titles to Land Ordinance, while in the course of 1889 the centre line of the proposed railway from Bentota through Galle to Mátara was laid out by two members of the Survey Department under the supervision of the Resident Engineer of the Haputalé extension.

26. The area of land alienated by the Crown during 1889 was 12,434 acres, a good deal less than usual. The following table shows to what extent these lands fell into the hands of Europeans and natives respectively :—

Abstract of Lands alienated from the Crown to Europeans and Natives in 1889.

Province.	Europeans.			
	Lots.	Extent.	Amount and Fees.	Average Rate per Acre.
	No.	A. R. P.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Western	9	170 2 7·75	3,294 50	19 32
Central	29	160 2 28	2,079 0	12 95
Northern	—	—	—	—
Southern	20	218 2 3	2,678 20	12 25
Eastern	2	8 1 12	108 50	13 56
North-Western	6	44 2 20	455 0	10 22
North Central	—	—	—	—
Uva	65	541 2 10	6,186 50	11 42
Sabaragamuwa	15	285 1 15	3,503 60	12 28
Total	146	1,429 2 15·75	18,305 30	12 81

(*Continued.*)

Province.	Natives.			
	Lots.	Extent.	Amount and Fees.	Average Rate per Acre.
	No.	A. R. P.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Western	1,107	3,325 3 6	61,126 16	18 37
Central	120	363 1 12	3,320 0	9 14
Northern	208	350 2 29	4,996 91	14 25
Southern	845	3,561 3 36	80,331 75	22 55
Eastern	184	1,078 2 20	14,896 60	13 81
North-Western	216	1,738 0 20	29,303 0	16 86
North Central	16	26 0 28·88	531 0	20 42
Uva	124	236 2 30	2,249 50	9 51
Sabaragamuwa	131	323 1 4	4,244 40	13 13
Total	2,951	11,004 2 25·88	200,999 32	18 26

27. The expenditure on the Department during the year was Rs. 390,352·81, and the amount realised by the Government from sales of land was Rs. 262,903.

Railways.

28. The length of line open for traffic remained the same in 1889 as in 1888, 180½ miles. Two extensions were, however, in progress—that towards Haputalé and that towards Bentota.

29. The receipts, expenditure, and net earnings of 1886, 1887, 1888, and 1889—that is, since the opening of the last extension—compare as under for the whole railway :—

——	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Receipts - - -	2,687,875	2,947,628	3,387,658	3,549,135
Expenditure - -	1,451,716	1,466,002	1,505,680	1,670,045
Net earnings - -	1,236,159	1,481,626	1,881,978	1,879,090

The results for the year on the working of the several sections of the line are as follows :—

——	Gross Earnings.	Working Expenses, including new Works.	Net Earnings.	Deficiency.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Main line - -	2,136,896	777,612	1,359,284	—
Coast line - -	318,777	265,266	53,511	—
Mátalé line - -	98,515	103,355	—	4,840
Náwalapitiya line -	348,311	160,879	187,432	—
Nánuoya line - -	646,635	362,932	283,703	—

The cost of construction and dividend earned by each section compare thus:—

——	Cost of Construction.	Net Earnings. 1889.	Dividend earned.		
			1889.	1888.	1887.
	Rs.	Rs.			
Main line - - -	17,591,076	1,359,284	7·73	7·75	6·31
Coast line - - -	2,339,182	53,511	2·29	2·91	1·15
Mátalé line - - -	3,391,952	Loss 4,835	Loss.	Loss.	Loss.
Náwalapitiya line - -	2,674,627	187,432	7·1	6·92	5·22
Nànuoya line* - -	10,927,853	283,703	2·59	2·47	1·98
The Railway as a whole -	36,924,690	1,879,090	5·09	5·19	4·02

* Account not closed.

The increase is in both goods and passenger traffic, which compares for the years 1886, 1887, 1888, and 1889, as follows:—

Coaching.

——	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.
	No.	No.	No.	No.
Ordinary, first and second class passengers - -	156,849	164,771	179,952	184,342
Season, first and second class passengers - - -	571	610	593	610
Ordinary, third class passengers - . -	1,661,660	1,801,509	2,002,346	2,100,866
Season, third class passengers-	2,177	2,544	2,638	2,946
Parcels, &c. - -	146,934	159,297	194,913	200,244

Goods.

——	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
General - - -	133,271	141,339	157,442	167,014
Public Departments - -	23,162	20,956	35,740	43,234

LEGISLATION.

Twenty-four Ordinances passed the Legislative Council in 1889, of which all have received Her Majesty's Confirmation and gracious allowance.

Of these, the Ordinance No. 1 of 1889, consolidating the laws relating to Courts and their jurisdictions; the Ordinance No. 2 of 1889, a complete Code of Civil Procedure; the Ordinance No. 3 of 1889, relating to Buddhist temporalities, which finally set at rest a long-standing grievance; and the Ordinance amending the law relating to Indian coolies employed on Ceylon estates are of more than usual interest and importance. The last-named was the cause of some controversy, and was only finally confirmed on an amending Ordinance being passed.

Besides the above, the Ordinances Nos. 23 and 24, relating to the irrigation and cultivation of paddy lands, and to village communities, are important enactments, consolidating the existing

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laws on the subject, which were widely scattered through the legislation of a number of years.

Of the less important Acts of the Legislature, No. 9 of 1889, an Ordinance relating to the sale of opium in the Colombo municipality, passed with the object of increasing the cost and lessening the opportunities of obtaining this drug; the Ordinance No. 16, authorising the punishment of whipping in certain cases; No. 17, an Ordinance relating to gaming; and No. 19, relating to the maintenance of wives and children, are likely to produce useful results.

Public Health.

The annexed table shows the comparative birth and death rates per 1,000 of the population during the years 1886, 1887, 1888, and 1889, for the nine provinces and for the whole island. The table is subject to the remark that deaths are more certainly and accurately recorded than births.

Provinces.	Deaths per Mille.				Births per Mille.			
	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.
Western - - -	18·9	22·8	20·1	20·1	25·5	31·2	31·5	25·4
Central - - -	22·0	22·2	27·0	25·1	24·9	29·0	29·7	24·9
Northern - - -	27·9	19·9	23·3	32·7	26·7	35·8	32·9	27·5
Southern - - -	25·6	21·2	23·8	24·3	24·0	32·4	32·2	28·5
Eastern - - -	24·5	22·5	27·6	40·5	39·8	43·9	44·1	38·0
North-Western - -	25·2	32·2	35·3	48·9	36·2	41·1	36·1	33·4
North Central - -	35·8	31·9	46·3	42·5	39·3	44·4	41·9	38·1
Uva - - - - -	27·0	33·0	37·9	28·9	30·8	32·1	30·1	28·0
Sabaragamuwa - -	—	—	—	35·9	—	—	—	31·6
Island - - -	23·7	24·0	26·7	29·2	27·1	32·9	32·1	28·4

The Principal Civil Medical Officer reports the health of the island to have been unsatisfactory during 1889. Cholera prevailed widely, 1,650 cases having occurred, with 1,158 deaths. The epidemic broke out on two occasions, following the great assemblages of people from India and different parts of Ceylon at the pearl fishery and at the Roman Catholic festival in honour of St. Anna. The effects of the disease were most severely felt in the Northern Province, where 838 proved fatal.

As in 1888, outbreaks of fever occurred in several parts of the island, the worst sufferers being the Northern and Eastern provinces. In the Western and Southern Provinces, and in Uva, there were outbreaks of a less severe kind.

There was but little small-pox, the number of cases reported being for the whole island only 396, with 75 deaths. Of these, 303 cases, and 53 deaths were in one province, the North-Western.

The comparative table subjoined gives the number of hospitals and dispensaries open, the number of patients, and the death-rate for the years 1887, 1888, and 1889:—

—	Number open.			Number of Patients.		
	1887.	1888.	1889.	1887.	1888.	1889.
Civil hospitals - - - -	24	25	24	22,607	23,283	24,088
Medical Aid hospitals - - -	9	10	10	2,522	2,603	3,967
Immigrant hospitals - - -	6	6	6	1,689	2,155	1,962
Dispensaries - - - -	51	53	76	140,000	128,533	176,047
Police Hospital, Colombo - -	1	1	1	636	492	557
De Soysa Lying-in Home - -	1	1	1	145	165	181
Gaol Hospitals - - - -	31	31	30	5,332	5,969	4,927
Lunatic Asylum - - -	1	1	1	467	425	426
Leper Asylum* - - - -	1	1	1	237	258	256

(*Continued.*)

—	Number of Deaths.			Per-centage of Deaths to Patients.		
	1887.	1888.	1889.	1887.	1888.	1889.
Civil hospitals - - - -	2,083	2,319	2,510	9·21	9·96	10·42
Medical Aid hospitals - - -	429	727	748	17·01	20·24	18·86
Immigrant hospitals - - -	129	155	141	7·06	7·01	7·18
Dispensaries - - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—
Police Hospital, Colombo - -	—	—	1	—	—	1·80
De Soysa Lying-in Home - -	1	6	4	·66	3·06	2·20
Gaol Hospitals - - - -	109	129	136	2·04	2·16	2·76
Lunatic Asylum - - - -	30	27	17	6·04	6·03	3·96
Leper Asylum* - - - -	27	44	30	10·97	17·0	11·71

* Contains separate wards for lepers and paupers suffering from incurable diseases.

VACCINATION.

The following figures show the total number of persons operated upon in 1889:—

—	Primary Vaccination.				Re-vaccination.		
	Total.	Successful.	Absent.	Percentage of Successful.	Total.	Successful.	Percentage of Successful.
1889 - -	106,320	85,536	14,881	81·39	11,265	7,622	67·66

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The decrease of 20,503 in the numbers operated upon, as compared with 1888, is attributed by the Principal Civil Medical Officer to the employment of his vaccinators on other duty in connexion with the outbreaks of cholera and the prevalence of fever.

The practice of animal vaccination, introduced in 1887, was successfully continued at very small cost to the Colony.

THE MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

The expenditure of the Medical Department was Rs. 669,660, as compared with Rs. 585,445 in 1888, the increase in expenditure following the increase in the number of dispensaries. The recoveries from paying patients was Rs. 11,000 less, of the returns at dispensaries Rs. 3,000 more, than in the preceding year.

The cost of working the Medical Aid Ordinance in 1889 is shown below :—

	Rs.	c.
Total cost in 1889 - - -	175,665	20
Amount recovered from estates on account of visits, medicines, &c. -	41,372	17
Balance to be met from export duty	134,293	03
Receipts from export duty - -	58,404	87
Deficit met from general revenue -	75,888	16

FOREST DEPARTMENT.

The new organisation of the Department authorised by Government in 1888 came into effect from January 1, 1889, and considerable progress was made during the year in the direction of getting the new staff into working order and in making preparations, by way of surveys, examination and demarcation of forests, establishment of depôts, experiments in forest culture, &c., for the proper conservation and working of the Crown forests.

The railway fuel supply has been the cause to the new Department of considerable solicitude. Steps were taken for elaborating a methodical treatment of the forests set apart for the supply of railway fuel for the lower section of the main line, for which it is proposed permanently to set aside 10,000 acres of forest. The supply of the other sections of the line will engage the conservator's attention in the following year.

Experiments in the way of reafforestation have been continued, though as yet without very marked success, and the conservator reports that the older teak plantations, most of them of many years' standing, are not promising.

The following tables show the financial results of the working of the past two years: the profit has this year actually been

expended in the necessary stocking of the depôts, but there appears little reason to doubt that in a short time the forests will again become a source of considerable net revenue to the Government:—

——	1888.	1889.
Cr.		
	Rs.	Rs.
Revenue credited - - - - -	228,387	332,253
Outstandings due to the Department at close of year.	27,650	103,880
Value of timber in depôts at close of the year -	160,468	244,264
Outstandings due by Department at beginning of year.	—*	17,602
Total - - - -	416,505	697,999

Deduct from this :—

——	1888.	1889.
Dr.		
	Rs.	Rs.
Expenditure - - - -	247,510	393,962
Outstandings due by Department at close of year	17,602	35,424
Value of timber in depôts at beginning of year -	134,387	160,468
Outstandings due to Department at beginning of year.	482*	27,650
Total - -	399,981	617,504
Benefit to Department -	16,524	80,495

Criminal Statistics.

The numbers of cases and persons charged before the police magistrates for the past five years compare as follows :—

——	Cases instituted.	Cases in which there were Convictions.	Persons charged.	Persons convicted.
1885 - -	50,406	12,961	87,597	20,236
1886 - -	52,815	12,416	94,236	20,791
1887 - -	48,755	10,976	89,395	17,710
1888 - -	54,952	17,869	104,179	23,872
1889 -	51,896	16,421	91,434	22,612

* Data incomplete.

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The table shows a larger percentage of convictions and a smaller of acquittals in the last than in preceding years.

The following table exhibits the number of persons convicted and acquitted in District Courts and in the Supreme Court:—

	District Courts.		Supreme Court.	
	Convictions.	Acquittals.	Convictions.	Acquittals.
1885 - -	640	536	690	406
1886 - -	625	478	330	282
1887 - -	620	536	336	261
1888 - -	560	355	443	213
1889 - -	524	490	397	206

Omitting from consideration the year 1885, in which the old and new forms of procedure were at work side by side, and which cannot therefore be made the subject of comparison, it will be apparent that the number of convictions annually obtained in the higher courts does not greatly vary, and indeed tends to a very curious uniformity.

The results of the trials before the Supreme Court for murder and culpable homicide for the last few years are as follows:—

	Murder.		Culpable Homicide.	
	Convictions.	Acquittals.	Convictions.	Acquittals.
1885 - - -	24	42	68	16
1886 - - -	48*	34	21*	13
1887 - - -	27	34	40	33
1888 - - -	34	33	48	13
1889 - - -	43	45	38	11

The number of persons who suffered the extreme penalty of death was in the four years 1886, 1887, 1888, and 1889, as under:—

1886 - - - - -	18
1887 - - - - -	24
1888 - - - - -	23
1889 - - - - -	36

* The returns for 1886 do not properly distinguish between murder and homicide.

Generally speaking, the criminal statistics of the country indicate the existence of a state of things which it is important to remedy.

The report of the Commissioner from India, which was laid before Sir A. Gordon's Government in May 1889, remains still under consideration.

EDUCATION.

The proportion of children attending school, as compared with the whole population of this Colony, adult and otherwise, continues to improve steadily, being now for the whole Colony 1 in every 19; whereas in 1888 it was 1 in 21, in 1887 it was 1 in 22, 1 in 24 in 1886, 1 in 26 in 1885, and 1 in 27 in 1884.

The annexed table gives the comparative returns of attendance in Government, in grant-in-aid, and in unaided and Pansala (or Buddhist Monastery) schools for 1888 and 1889.

It will be observed that, while the number of scholars in each description of school has considerably increased, the cost to Government per scholar continues to decrease, owing, in the case of Government schools, to careful management and reduction of expenditure wherever compatible with efficiency on the part of the Public Instruction Department, while in the case of grant-in-aid schools really good English work is insisted upon before a grant can be earned, thus gradually counteracting the evil effects upon the country of a rising generation of half-educated idlers who deem that a little pigeon-English places them above honest work. Grant-in-aid vernacular schools, however, are encouraged, and are liberally treated, while a practical education in the rudiments of agriculture and sanitation is fostered in the higher standards of every village school. It is hoped that by degrees some improvement in the agriculture and sanitation of the outlying villages may follow.

Return of Attendances in Government and other Schools.

—	No. of Schools in		Attended by					
	1888.	1889.	Boys in 1888.	Boys in 1889.	Girls in 1888.	Girls in 1889.	Total in 1888.	Total in 1889.
Government schools -	438	440	30,765	33,768	5,183	5,258	35,948	39,026
Grant-in-aid schools -	919	938	46,322	48,840	20,078	20,643	66,400	69,483
Unaided private schools -	583	616	12,803	13,271	809	4,444	16,612	17,715
Pansala schools - -	1,844	1,974	12,211	12,070	—	—	12,211	12,070
Total - - -	3,784	3,968	102,101	107,949	29,070	30,345	131,171	138,294

—	Average Number of Scholars per School in 1888.	Average Cost to Government per Boy.		Average Cost to Government per Girl.	
		In 1888.	In 1889.	In 1888.	In 1889.
		Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Government Schools -	88	5 17	4 66	3 43	3 37
Grant-in-Aid Schools -	74	2 82 per scholar	2 79 per scholar	Boys and Girls not distinguished.	
Unaided Private Schls.	28	—	—	—	—
Pansala Schools -	—	—	—	—	—

The following return shows the schools and scholars, omitting the unaided schools. As stated last year, the old Anglo-vernacular schools have now disappeared in favour of Primary and Middle English schools; *i.e.*, instead of beginning English only in the VIth Standard in Anglo-vernacular schools, where nothing of importance was learned, translation into and from English now commences from the 1st Standard, thus giving a boy the whole of his school life for perfecting his studies:—

1888.

—	No. of Schools.	No. of Boys on the List.	No. of Girls on the List.	Total No. of Boys and Girls on the List.	Total No. of Scholars in Average Attendance.
GOVERNMENT.					
English High - - - - -	1	270	—	270	247
Agricultural School - - - -	1	19	—	19	21
Railway Girls' School, English - -	1	1	56	57	41
*English Primary and Middle - -	25	2,883	258	3,141	1,812
Vernacular - - - -	410	27,592	4,869	32,461	16,979
GRANT-IN-AID.					
English High - - - -	83	6,628	1,558	8,186	5,915
*English Primary and Middle - -	56	3,181	1,514	4,695	2,992
Vernacular - - - - -	780	36,513	17,006	53,519	31,395
Total - - - - -	1,357	77,087	25,261	102,348	59,402

* These Primary and Middle English schools were previously Anglo-vernacular.

1889.

	No. of Schools.	No. of Boys on the List.	No. of Girls on the List.	Total No. of Boys and Girls on the List.	Total No. of Scholars in Average Attendance.
GOVERNMENT.					
English High	1	310	—	310	252
Agricultural School	1	23	—	23	23
Railway Girls' School, English	1	3	62	65	41
English Primary and Middle	13	1,704	49	1,753	1,115
Vernacular	424	31,728	5,147	36,875	19,801
GRANT-IN-AID.					
English High	50	5,181	1,267	6,448	4,780
English Primary and Middle	58	2,493	1,422	3,915	2,691
Vernacular	830	41,166	17,954	59,120	33,753
Total	1,378	82,608	25,901	108,509	62,456

The one agricultural school shown in the above return is the Colombo School, where agricultural students are trained and sent out, some to work in Government schools, some to work on their private property on their own account. In the report for 1888 six of these young men were reported as working as agricultural instructors in Government schools, while two were employed and paid from local funds. The Government still pays only for six, but five more are now employed from local funds, their usefulness having been recognised, and other applications for these agricultural instructors are now under consideration.

The proportion which the number of children attending school bears to the population of the several Provinces during 1888 and 1889, comparatively, is shown in the following table:—

	1888.	1889.
Western	1 in 12	1 in 11
Central	1 in 42	1 in 35
Northern	1 in 12	1 in 12
Southern	1 in 26	1 in 25
Eastern	1 in 14	1 in 15
North-Western	1 in 37	1 in 36
North Central	1 in 45	1 in 44
Uva	1 in 76	1 in 79
Sabaragamuwa	1 in 43	1 in 36

CEYLON.

The new system of night schools recorded in the last report is working fairly, but has not expanded as much as was expected, there being, except in active educational centres, a disinclination to go to school at night after the labours of the day.

The expenditure on education for 1889 was Rs. 470,292·75, as compared with Rs. 458,246 76 in 1888, but 6,161 more scholars were paid for than in 1888.

(Signed) E. NOEL WALKER,
Colonial Secretary.

Ceylon, 13th October 1891.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

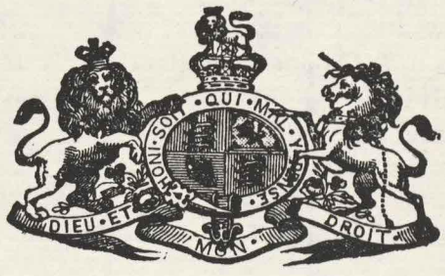
No. 33.

CEYLON.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1890.

(For Report for 1889 *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 30.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.



LONDON:
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1892.

[C.—6563.–17.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

No.	Colony.	Year.
106	British Guiana	1889
107	Barbados	,,
108	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
109	Western Australia	,,
110	Gold Coast (Agriculture)	1890
111	Labuan	1889
112	Jamaica	,,
113	Falkland Islands	,,
114	Basutoland	1889–90
115	Sierra Leone	1889
116	Fiji	,,
117	Hong Kong	,,
118	St. Helena	,,

NEW SERIES OF COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

1	British Honduras	1889
2	Mauritius	,,
3	British Bechuanaland	1889–90
4	Victoria	1889
5	Newfoundland	,,
6	British New Guinea	1889–90
7	St. Vincent	1890
8	Bermuda	,,
9	Leeward Islands	1889
10	St. Lucia	1890
11	Bahamas	,,
12	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
13	Gibraltar	,,
14	Zululand	,,
15	Sierra Leone	,,
16	Barbados	,,
17	Falkland Islands	,,
18	Labuan	,,
19	British Honduras	,,
20	Basutoland	1890–91
21	Trinidad and Tobago	1890
22	Leeward Islands	,,
23	Grenada	,,
24	Straits Settlements	,,
25	British Guiana	,,
26	St. Helena	,,
27	Mauritius	,,
28	Gambia	,,
29	Hong Kong	,,
30	Ceylon	1889
31	Lagos	,,
32	Lagos	1890

No. 33.

CEYLON.

[For Report for 1889 *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 30.]

Sir A. E. HAVELOCK to LORD KNUTSFORD

Queen's House, Colombo,
Ceylon, November 27, 1891.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the usual Report on the Blue Book of Ceylon for the year 1890.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. E. HAVELOCK.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT on the BLUE BOOK of CEYLON for the Year 1890.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The revenue of the Colony received during the year 1890 amounted to Rs. 16,228,768, and the expenditure to Rs.15,316,223; the corresponding figures for 1889 were Rs. 15,299,877 and Rs. 14,906,281 respectively.

Revenue.

2. The above figures show an increase in the revenue of Rs. 928,891. Increased returns are shown under almost every head of revenue, the most noticeable being the increases on railway receipts, Rs. 296,074, on Customs Rs. 210,608, on licenses Rs. 162,978, on stamps Rs. 61,223, and on port and harbour dues Rs. 59,272. These figures seem to afford a very satisfactory indication of the growing prosperity of the Island and the expansion of its trade. The decrease of Rs. 87,477 on the land revenue is due principally to failure of the crops in the Eastern and Northern Provinces. The pearl fishery produced Rs. 183,479, less than in 1889. The increases and decreases under the other heads of revenue are explained in detail in the Auditor-General's report of May 22, 1891, and do not appear to call for further notice.

Expenditure.

3. The total increase of expenditure as compared with 1889 was Rs. 409,942.

4. Under the head of establishments the increase is put down as Rs. 76,657, and is due chiefly to provision for the salary of the additional cadets who arrived in 1889–90, Rs. 22,516; additions

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to the staff of the Public Works Department, Rs. 26,769 ; and the Railway Department, Rs. 24,251, the latter rendered necessary by the opening of the extension to Bentota. The real increase is, however, Rs. 93,448, a sum of Rs. 16,791 on account of labour on Columbo harbour works, formerly charged to establishments, having been paid out of Services Exclusive of Establishments.

5. Under the head Services Exclusive of Establishments, the apparent increase is Rs. 333,284; but from this should be deducted a sum of Rs. 16,791 on account of labour on Colombo Harbour works, formerly charged to Establishments, and a further sum of Rs. 52,002 on account of Administration of Justice, formerly brought to account under Deposits, Lapsed Loan Board Funds, but which in 1890 was charged to General Revenue. The real increase amounts therefore to Rs. 264,491, and is due principally to increased votes on account of Revenue Services Rs. 92,565, on account of Public Works Rs. 351,728, on account of Hospitals and Sanitation Rs. 64,730, and on account of Military Contribution Rs. 78,524.

6. The increased expenditure on Revenue Services, Public Works, and Hospitals may be considered to be productive expenditure, and of direct advantage to the inhabitants of the Colony. The increased military contribution includes further expenditure on account of Colombo defences.

7. Further, it should be noted that considerable savings were effected under the head Services Exclusive of Establishments, amounting to about Rs. 200,000, owing to the more favourable rate of exchange which prevailed.

Assets and Liabilities.

8. The following table shows the assets and liabilities of the Government on January 1, 1891, as compared with January 1, 1890 :—

Assets.				Liabilities.			
1890.		1891.		1890.		1891.	
Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
9,342,767	88	11,484,674	59	8,235,685	33	9,580,294	49
		Excess of assets -		1,107,082	55	1,904,380	10
				9,342,767	88	11,484,674	59

Public Debt.

9. The debt of the Colony on January 1, 1891, amounted to 2,492,484*l.* 10*s.* 9*d.*, as against 2,209,727*l.* 15*s.* 1*d.* in sterling, and Rs. 345,301·14, as against Rs. 354,310·91 in silver, on January 1, 1890.

10. An additional loan of 300,500*l.* was raised in May, 1890, for the Haputalé and Bentota Railway Extensions.

11. The amount paid off on account of the various sterling loans was 124,015*l.* 9*s.* 3*d.*, and on account of the silver loan was Rs. 19,698·86.

CUSTOMS AND SHIPPING.

12. The total value of the trade of the Colony for the year was Rs. 114,219,279·03, as against Rs. 107,619,641·35 for 1889, thus:—

	1889.		1890.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Imports - - - - -	60,695,135	79	63,091,939	13
Exports - - - - -	46,924,505	56	51,127,339	90
Total - - - -	107,619,641	35	114,219,279	03
Increase in 1890 - -	6,599,637	68	—	

Or deducting specie:—

	1889.		1890.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Imports - - - - -	54,170,495	67	56,469,585	13
Exports - - - - -	46,098,778	56	50,181,919	11
Total - - - -	100,269,274	23	106,651,504	24
Increase in 1890 - - -	6,382,230	01	—	

13. The gross customs revenue for 1890 was Rs. 3,948,564.11 which, compared with that of 1888, the highest previous amount, shows an increase of Rs. 201,499.42, and compared with that of 1889 shows an increase of Rs. 230,411.94.

14. The principal imports and exports compare with those of 1889 as follows:—

Imports.

		1889.	1890.
Grain - - -	bushels	6,591,157	6,350,036
Cotton goods - -	Rs.	4,840,233	5,858,225
Malt liquor, wines, &c. -	„	1,210,170	1,206,169
Metals and metalware -	„	1,383,367	1,889,520
Coal and coke - -	tons	321,015	303,896
Specie - - -	Rs.	6,241,571	6,339,285
Machinery -	„	1,040,258	749,180

Exports.

	1889.	1890.
Coffee - - - cwts.	89,694	90,091
Cinchona - - lbs.	9,455,641	8,779,140
Tea - - - „	34,346,432	45,799,518
Cacao - - - cwts.	18,849	15,942
Cardamons - - lbs.	466,168	395,576
Cocoanut products :—		
Cocoanuts - - No.	5,409,962 and pkgs. 2,764	12,444,070 and bags 135
Coir stuffs - - cwts.	131,980 and pkgs. 1,681	124,330 and pkgs. 662
Cocoanut oil - - „	379,937	368,725
Copperah - - „	54,961	156,193
Arrack - - gals.	115,042	103,931
Cinnamon - - lbs.	2,562,711	2,345,564
Citronella oil - - ozs.	10,818,812	13,785,098
Plumbago - - cwts.	486,139	392,577
Tobacco - - - „	51,900	55,301
Malt liquor - - gals.	139,080	43,611

SHIPPING.

15. The shipping returns for the Island show a satisfactory increase, both in numbers and tonnage:—

	1889.		1890.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Entered - -	3,366	2,423,505	3,566	2,576,019
Cleared - -	3,378	2,408,460	3,586	2,541,883
Total -	6,744	4,831,965	7,152	5,117,902

COLOMBO HARBOUR.

16. The expenditure on works for 1890 amounted to Rs. 227,973·43.

17. The following is the statement of revenue and expenditure on account of the harbour for 1890 :—

RECEIPTS.	Rs.	c.	EXPENDITURE.	Rs.	c.
Colombo Harbour dues - -	570,793	44	Public Works Loan Commissioners, on account of principal - -	90,963	06
Pilotage - - - -	42,977	00	Do. do. interest -	100,220	76
Rent of reclamation ground -	8,995	13	Interest on debentures -	247,036	60
Sundries - - - -	2,635	50	Master attendant - - -	63,569	72
Single rent - - -	137,310	22	Director of public works - -	27,160	85
			Principal Collector of Customs -	4,234	45
			Engineer of works - - -	163,939	88
			Inspector-General of Police -	7,117	03
			Principal Civil Medical Officer -	738	56
				704,981	91
			Excess of receipts - - -	57,730	38
Total - -	762,711	29	Total - -	762,711	29

It will be seen from the above that the receipts considerably exceeded the expenditure.

18. The usual examination of the breakwater was made after the south-west monsoon, and the works were found to be intact, while the annual series of cross soundings showed that no silting up of the harbour had taken place.

Dredging operations were resumed on May 8, after a stoppage of 51 months, and 101,380 cubic yards of material were removed, when the dredger again broke down. About one third of the dredged area has now been deepened to a depth of 28 feet, and it is hoped that on the arrival of the new dredger, which has been ordered from England, this work may be pushed on with the rapidity necessary to meet the demand for further accommodation resulting from the steady increase in the shipping frequenting the port. Dredging has unfortunately been again discontinued, owing to a serious leak in the old dredger.

PUBLIC WORKS.

19. The expenditure of the Public Works Department for 1890 was Rs. 3,376,583, as compared with Rs. 2,907,454 in 1889, being an increase of Rs. 469,128.49, or 13·89 per cent.

The expenditure was thus divided :—

	Rs.	c.
Establishment, including allowances and contingencies - - - - -	345,681	38
Upkeep of roads, bridges, canals, and irrigation works - - - - -	1,169,780	41
Carried forward - -	1,515,461	79

	Rs.	c.
Brought forward - -	1,515,461	79
Repairs to buildings - - -	132,706	00
Departmental charges and miscellaneous	212,880	86
New works and buildings - - -	284,145	40
Alterations and additions to buildings	102,218	34
New roads and additions to roads -	444,510	27
Improvements to canals - - -	4,994	10
New bridges - - - - -	189,768	15
Irrigation works - - - -	489,898	22
Total - -	3,376,583	13

Maintenance of public works in 1889 and 1890 compares thus :—

	1889.		1890.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Public buildings - - -	135,570	81	132,706	0
Roads - - - -	939,464	36	1,024,554	68
Bridges - - - -	94,353	16	60,581	42
Canals - - - -	27,590	71	27,200	55
Irrigation works - - -	47,384	65	57,443	76
Total - -	1,244,363	69	1,302,486	41

20. The additional mileage of roads kept up by the Public Works Department was 45·79 miles. The roads were maintained at an average cost of Rs, 314·80 a mile.

21. Under the head of new roads the principal works undertaken were the continuation of the Colombo Harbour foreshore works, the completion of the Ondachchimadam causeway in the Eastern Province, the extension of the Ruwanwella-Attanagala road in the important tea district of Kelani Valley, and survey of trace of a road to connect the Southern and Sabaragamuwa Provinces. A considerable portion of the south coast road running through the Eastern Province was reconstructed and gravelled, and sections of the north road were metalled.

22. The Toppu bridge commenced in 1889 was opened in July and another large bridge over an arm of the Bolgoda Lake was also completed. Progress with the important bridge over the Kuru-ganga, on the Nambapana road, was hindered by the floods.

23. Under the head Works and Buildings the most important works undertaken were the Kirillapane and Talpitiya flood-outlets in the Western Province, the extension of the customs warehouses, Colombo, and the construction of new export jetties for Colombo and Galle.

24. The most important building operation for the year was the new hospital in the town of Badulla. The new market in the same town was also completed.

25. Many considerable irrigation works were in progress during the year, of which the most important are the construction of an irrigation channel in connexion with the Liyangahatota anicut and works on the Walawe-ganga in the Southern Province, the Deduru-oya works in the North-western Province, and the Kumbukkan-oya works in the province of Uva.

26. Among other works, Kanakarayankulam tank in the Northern Province and Eraula tank and the Bodi-ela in the Central Province were completed, but the latter has since suffered from storm water, and a further report on its condition is awaited.

27. The furniture in the Queen's Houses was kept in good order, and the buildings are in a fair state of repair.

SURVEY DEPARTMENT.

28. The expenditure of the Department for 1890 amounted to Rs. 406,272·45, as compared with Rs. 390,352·81 in 1889.

29. The total revenue from sales of Government land amounted to Rs. 231,999, or a decrease of Rs. 30,904 on the revenue of 1889.

The area of land alienated by the Crown during 1890 was 2,713 acres, the annexed table showing the amounts sold to Europeans and natives respectively:—

Province.	Europeans.									
	Lots.	Extent.			Amount and Fees.		Average Rate per Acre.	
	No.	A.	R.	P.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Western	12	7	0	10	114	50	16	21
Central	71	544	1	2·08	9,020	54	16	58
Northern	1	1	3	22	25	0	13	36
Southern	2	164	2	30	1,912	30	11	62
Eastern	5	16	1	7	219	0	13	47
North-Western	6	249	2	14	7,383	50	29	53
North Central	—	—			—		—	
Uva	42	506	0	16	6,706	70	13	25
Sabaragamuwa	16	163	2	6	3,346	1	20	46
Total	155	1,653	1	27·08	28,727	64	17	38

(*continued.*)

CEYLON.

Province.	Natives.									
	Lots.	Extent.			Amount and Fees.		Average Rate per Acre.	
	No.	A.	R.	P.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Western - - - -	888	2,431	1	11·49	33,884	91	13	94
Central - - - -	107	225	1	0·72	6,153	21	27	34
Northern - - - -	45	235	3	9	2,466	25	10	46
Southern - - - -	1,172	3,740	3	6	62,618	95	16	73
Eastern - - - -	213	690	3	5	12,115	96	17	53
North-Western - - -	460	3,102	3	30	40,063	94	12	91
North Central - - -	11	44	2	15	492	10	11	5
Uva - - - -	105	171	1	10	2,241	25	13	10
Sabaragamuwa - - -	112	417	1	20	7,840	52	18	83
Total - -	3,113	11,060	0	27·21	167,877	9	15	17

30. Forest and irrigation surveys have principally occupied the attention of the Department, but other work of importance and of a very varied character as usual has been undertaken, including topographical surveys, boundary surveys, surveys of land for sale on applications, cadastral surveys of certain villages in the Western and Sabaragamuwa Provinces, and a trace of the proposed extension of the railway from Bentota to Mátara, a distance of 60 miles.

RAILWAYS.

31. The receipts in 1890 amounted to Rs. 3,862,313 as against Rs. 3,549,135 in 1889, or an increase of Rs. 313,178.

The expenditure was Rs. 1,722,755 against Rs. 1,670,045 in 1889.

The net profit amounted to Rs. 2,139,558, being a net profit on the capital cost of construction of 5·70 per cent.

32. The approximate results for the years 1889 and 1890 of each section of the railway are as follows:—

—	Main Line.		Náwalapitiya Line.		Nánu-oya Line.		Coast Line.		Mátalé Line.	
	1889.	1890.	1889.	1890.	1889.	1890.	1889.	1890.	1889.	1890.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Receipts	2,136,896	2,303,439	348,310	373,692	646,635	680,800	318,777	403,879	98,515	100,503
Expenditure	777,612	800,034	160,879	146,136	362,932	363,169	265,266	314,025	103,355	99,391
Profit -	1,359,284	1,503,405	187,431	227,556	284,703	317,631	53,511	89,854	—	1,112
Loss -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4,840	—

It will be observed that the Mátalé line for the first time shows a profit—a result due chiefly to revision of the traffic arrangements.

33. During the year the extension of 10¾ miles of the sea-coast line to Bentota was opened, making a total length of 191½ miles of open line. The net profit on this extension for 1890 amounted to no more than Rs. 1,491, but the line was only opened on March 31, and is at present mainly a passenger line. When opened as far as Galle it will carry a considerable goods traffic. The extension to Haputalé was proceeded with during the year.

LEGISLATION.

34. Thirty-two Ordinances were passed in 1890, all of which received Her Majesty's confirmation and gracious allowance, with the exception of Ordinance No. 18, relating to Chanks. The most important of these Ordinances were those regulating the recovery of royalty on precious stones and metals dug in land other than Crown land, relating to fortifications and official secrets, establishing a volunteer reserve, regulating the wearing and carrying of knives, amending the Criminal Procedure Code, 1883, and abolishing the duty on dry grain.

VITAL STATISTICS AND PUBLIC HEALTH.

35. The annexed table shows the proportion of births and deaths per thousand of the population for the five years 1886 to 1890 in the Island generally, and in the different provinces:—

Province.	Births to 1,000 Persons living.				
	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.
CEYLON -	27·1	32·9	32·1	28·4	32·9
Western - -	25·5	31·2	31·5	25·4	27·3
Central - -	24·9	29·0	29·7	24·9	28·3
Northern - -	26·7	35·8	32·9	27·5	33·1
Southern - -	24·0	32·4	32·2	28·5	32·6
Eastern - -	39·8	43·9	44·1	38·0	48·1
North-Western -	36·2	41·1	36·1	33·4	39·8
North Central -	39·3	44·4	41·9	38·1	52·7
Uva - - -	30·8	32·1	30·1	28·0	40·0
Sabaragamuwa -	25·0	30·0	30·6	31·6	31·6

(continued.)

Province.	Deaths to 1,000 Persons living.				
	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.
CEYLON -	23·7	24·0	26·7	29·2	23·7
Western - -	18·9	22·8	20·1	20·1	15·6
Central - -	22·0	22·2	27·0	25·1	26·0
Northern - -	27·9	19·9	23·3	32·7	22·5
Southern - -	25·6	21·2	23·8	24·3	21·5
Eastern - -	24·5	22·5	35·3	40·5	25·7
North-Western -	25·2	32·2	27·6	48·9	31·7
North Central -	35·8	31·9	46·3	42·5	37·3
Uva - - -	27·0	33·0	37·9	28·9	32·8
Sabaragamuwa -	25·0	30·0	33·5	35·9	29·1

The births exceeded the deaths by 26,506—a larger excess than in any previous year except 1883.

INDIAN IMMIGRANTS.

36. The departures of immigrant coolies amounted to 45,756; the arrivals amounted to 84,106, thus exceeding the departures by 38,350— an increase greater than in any previous year excepting the years of the Indian famine, 1876–1877.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

37. The health of the Island has been on the whole more satisfactory than in 1889. The most noticeable feature of the year was an epidemic of influenza, a disease not before observed in Ceylon. The epidemic lasted from the first week in February to the end of June, and appears to have been introduced by H.M. troopship "Himalaya."

The first cases occurred among the pilot's boatmen in Colombo Harbour, whence it spread to every part of the Island. It was noticed that the disease was most prevalent among classes of persons living or working in community, such as clerks in offices, prisoners in gaols, labourers on estates.

38. Cholera was widely spread but less severe in character than in 1889. 1,247 cases, principally from the Northern, North Central, and Southern Provinces were reported, resulting in 663 deaths, as against 1,650 cases and 1,158 deaths in 1889. No cases of cholera were reported from the Western Province.

39. There was a slight increase in the mortality from small-pox, which prevailed chiefly in the Western and Southern Provinces. In all 750 cases and 158 deaths were reported.

40. The comparative table subjoined gives the number of hospitals and dispensaries open, the number of patients, and the death-rate for the years 1888, 1889, and 1890 :—

	Number Open.			Number of Patients.		
	1888.	1889.	1890.	1888.	1889.	1890.
Civil hospitals, including Parangi and Field Hospitals.	25	24	32	23,283	24,088	24,970
Medical Aid Hospitals - - -	10	10	10	2,603	3,967	4,521
Immigrant Hospitals - - -	6	6	6	2,155	1,962	2,098
Dispensaries (Civil) - - -	53	76	127	128,533	176,041	248,625
Police Hospital, Colombo - -	1	1	1	492	555	522
De Soysa Lying-in Home - -	1	1	1	165	181	162
Gaol Hospitals - - - -	31	30	30	5,969	4,925	5,235
Lunatic Asylum - - - -	1	1		425	429	456
Leper Asylum - - - -	1	1	1	258	256	257

(*Continued.*)

	Number of Deaths.			Per-centage of Deaths to Patients.		
	1888.	1889.	1890.	1888.	1889.	1890.
Civil hospitals, including Parangi and Field Hospitals.	2,319	2,510	2,144	9·96	10·42	8·59
Medical Aid Hospitals - - -	727	748	784	20·24	18·90	17·34
Immigrant Hospitals - - -	155	141	125	7·01	7·18	5·95
Dispensaries (Civil) - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—
Police Hospital, Colombo - -	—	1	1	—	1·80	0·01
De Soysa Lying-in Home - -	6	4	5	3·06	2·20	3·08
Gaol Hospitals - - - -	129	136	103	2·16	2·76	1·96
Lunatic Asylum - - - -	27	17	21	6·03	3·96	4·60
Leper Asylum - - - -	44	30	20	17·00	11·71	7·84

VACCINATION.

41. The following table shows the total number of persons operated on in 1889 and 1890 :—

	Primary Vaccination.				Re-vaccination.		
	Total.	Successful.	Absent.	Percentage of Successful.	Total.	Successful.	Percentage of Successful.
1889 - -	106,320	86,536	14,881	81·39	11,265	7,622	67·66
1890 - -	128,008	106,043	16,591	82·84	9,145	6,579	71·94

CEYLON.

Animal vaccination was carried on with success, and at a small cost to Government.

42. The expenditure of the Medical Department amounted to Rs. 706,703·84 against Rs. 669,660·99 in 1889. Deducting the receipts from paying patients and the collections at outdoor dispensaries, the net expenditure was Rs. 679,660·56 against Rs. 634,194·03 in 1889, making a net increase in expenditure of Rs. 48,466·53.

43. The cost of working the Medical Aid Ordinance appears as under :—

	Rs.	c.
Total cost in 1890 - - -	170,506	89
Amount recovered from estates, &c.	44,884	0
Balance to be met from export duty	125,622	89
Amount of export duty - -	66,810	4
Deficit to be met from general revenue - - -	58,812	85

The deficit is less by Rs. 19,004·22 than the deficit of last year.

FOREST DEPARTMENT.

44. Much good work was done by this Department during 1890, principally in connexion with the supply of fuel to the Railway and timber to the Public Works Departments.

45. Attention has been paid to artificial reproduction of existing species, and experimental plantations of new trees have been formed, the most noteworthy of which is one of Para rubber. But experimental plantation and the work of reafforesting must necessarily remain in the background when so much remains to be done in the direction of proper conservation and regulation of existing forests, and attention has been chiefly devoted to this object.

46. During the year, 23,389 acres of forest have been settled, but progress is still much delayed by the absence of exact knowledge as to the boundaries and areas of the forest under the charge of the Department. But as these and other difficulties are gradually removed, there is every reason to expect that the forests will be an ever-increasing source of revenue to Government.

47. The financial result of the year under review is very satisfactory, showing a profit of Rs. 88,527·83 as compared with deficits in 1889 and 1888, thus :—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	Rs.	Rs.
1888 - - - -	228,611	245,588
1889 - - - -	329,925	393,231
1890 - - -	510,045	421,517

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

48. The number of cases instituted and of persons charged before police magistrates during the past five years compares as follows:—

—	Cases instituted.	Cases in which there were Convictions.	Persons charged.	Persons convicted.
1886 -	52,815	12,416	94,236	20,791
1887 - -	48,755	10,976	89,395	17,710
1888 - -	54,952	17,869	104,179	23,872
1889 - -	51,896	16,421	91,434	22,612
1890 - -	59,542	13,394	104,467	28,467

49. The following table shows the number of persons convicted and acquitted in the Supreme and District Courts for the last five years:—

—	District Courts.		Supreme Court.	
	Convictions.	Acquittals.	Convictions.	Acquittals.
1886 - -	625	478	330	282
1887 - -	620	536	336	261
1888 - -	560	355	443	213
1889 - -	524	490	397	206
1890 - -	589	453	422	310

50. The results of the trials for murder and culpable homicide before the Supreme Court are as follows:—

—	Number of Persons tried.	Number of Persons convicted of Murder.	Number of Persons convicted of culpable Homicide.	Number of Persons acquitted.	Number of Persons executed.
1886 -	116	48	21	47	18
1887 -	134	27	40	67	24
1888 -	116	34	48	46	23
1889 -	138	43	38	56	36
1890 -	180	39	46	59	25

CEYLON.

A comparison of the criminal statistics of the year with those of the preceding years leads to the regrettable conclusion that crime has not decreased. It is to be hoped that the action lately taken in making gaol discipline more rigorous may lead to a decided diminution of crime.

EDUCATION.

51. Satisfactory progress continues to be made in public instruction. During the year under review there was a net increase of 8,158 scholars in schools reporting to the Instruction Department, the total number in 1890 being 146,452, as against 138,294 in 1889. The proportion of children attending school as compared with the whole population of the Colony, adult or otherwise, continues to improve, having been 1 in 18 for 1890 as compared with 1 in 19 for 1889, 1 in 21 for 1888, 1 in 22 for 1887, 1 in 24 for 1886.

52. The proportion which the number of children attending school bears to the population of the several provinces for 1889 and 1890 is shown in the following table :—

Province.	1889.	1890.
Western - - - - -	1 in 11	1 in 11
Central - - - - -	1 in 35	1 in 34
Northern - - - - -	1 in 12	1 in 12
Southern - - - - -	1 in 25	1 in 22
Eastern - - - - -	1 in 15	1 in 15
North-Western - - - -	1 in 36	1 in 34
North Central - - - -	1 in 44	1 in 40
Uva - - - - - -	1 in 79	1 in 78
Sabaragamuwa - - - -	1 in 36	1 in 32

53. The annexed table gives the comparative returns of attendance in Government, grant-in-aid, unaided, and Pansala schools for 1889 and 1890, together with the average attendance and average cost to Government of the scholars in Government and aided schools :—

	No. of Schools in		Attended by					
	1889.	1890.	Boys in 1889.	Boys in 1890.	Girls in 1889.	Girls in 1890.	Total in 1889.	Total in 1890.
Government schools -	440	436	33,768	34,775	5,258	5,515	39,026	40,290
Grant-in-aid schools -	938	984	48,840	50,946	20,643	22,752	69,483	73,698
Unaided private schools -	616	586	13,271	14,295	4,444	5,703	17,715	19,998
Pansala schools - -	1,974	2,031	12,070	12,466	—	—	12,070	12,466
Total - - -	3,968	4,037	107,949	112,482	30,345	33,970	138,294	146,452

—	Average Number of Scholars per School		Average Cost to Government per Boy		Average Cost to Government per Girl	
	In 1889.	In 1890.	In 1889.	In 1890.	In 1889.	In 1890.
Government Schools.	88	92	Rs. c. 4 66	Rs. c. 4 50	Rs. c. 3 37	Rs. c. 3 34
Grant-in-Aid Schools.	74	74	2 79 per scholar	2 74 per scholar	Boys and girls not distinguished.	
Unaided Private Schls.	28	34	—	—	—	—
Pansala Schools.	Not stated.	6	—	—	—	—

It will be seen that the cost to Government of each scholar continues to decrease, while the high average attendance maintained in Government and aided schools, as compared with unaided schools, is noteworthy.

54. The following return shows the schools and scholars for 1889 and 1890, omitting the unaided schools :—

1889.

—	No. of Schools.	No. of Boys on the List.	No. of Girls on the List.	Total No. of Boys and Girls on the List.	Total No. of Scholars in Average Attendance.
GOVERNMENT.					
English - - - - -	3	336	62	398	316
English Primary and Middle - -	13	1,704	49	1,753	1,115
Vernacular - - - - -	424	31,728	5,147	36,875	19,801
GRANT-IN-AID.					
English - - - - -	50	5,181	1,267	6,448	4,780
English Primary* and Middle - -	58	2,493	1,422	3,915	2,691
Vernacular - - - - -	830	41,166	17,954	59,120	33,753
Total - - - - -	1,378	82,608	25,901	108,509	62,456

1890.

—	No. of Schools.	No. of Boys on the List.	No. of Girls on the List.	Total No. of Boys and Girls on the List.	Total No. of Scholars in Average Attendance.
GOVERNMENT.					
English - - - - -	3	326	59	385	325
English Primary and Middle - -	11	1,539	1	1,540	
Vernacular - - - - -	422	32,910	5,455	38,365	21,136
GRANT-IN-AID.					
English - - - - -	49	5,074	1,373	6,447	4,647
English Primary* and Middle - -	68	3,165	1,651	4,816	3,254
Vernacular - - - - -	867	42,707	19,728	62,435	36,057
Total - - - - -	1,420	85,721	28,267	113,988	66,371

* These primary and middle English schools were previously Anglo-vernacular.

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55. As regards schools for special instruction the Agricultural School continues to do good work. While competent instruction is given in all subjects connected with agriculture, manual labour in the field is insisted on and willingly accepted by the students. From the ranks of these, 12 agricultural instructors have been sent to various parts of the Island, some of whom are paid out of local funds. The reports of the Government agents of the districts on their work are satisfactory.

56. Further attention has been directed to the necessity for some means of technical instruction, and it is hoped that a commencement of work in this direction on a small scale may shortly be made.

57. The expenditure on education during 1890 was Rs. 474,387·99, as compared with Rs. 470,292·75 in 1889.

(Signed) E. NOEL WALKER,
Colonial Secretary.

LONDON: Printed by EYRE and SPOTTISWOODE,
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For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 17.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1890.

(In continuation of Colonial Report No. 113, Old Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

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1892.

[C.—6563.–1.]

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The following, among other, reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

No.	Colony.	Year.
82	Leeward Islands	1888
83	Natal (Liquor Traffic)	—
84	Hong Kong (Further Report)	1889
85	Bahamas (Fibre Industry)	—
86	Heligoland	1889
87	Newfoundland	1888
88	Mauritius, Seychelles, and Rodrigues	,,
89	Zululand	1889
90	Gibraltar	,,
91	Grenada	,,
92	Bermuda	,,
93	St. Vincent	1888
94	St. Vincent	1889
95	Bahamas	,,
96	St. Lucia	,,
97	British Bechuanaland	1888–9
98	Turks and Caicos	1889
99	Gambia	,,
100	Straits Settlements	,,
101	St. Kitts-Nevis	1886
102	Basutoland (Governor's visit)	1890
103	British New Guinea	1888–9
104	Natal	1889
105	Malta	,,
106	British Guiana	,,
107	Barbados	,,
108	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
109	Western Australia	1889
110	Gold Coast (Agriculture)	1890
111	Labuan	1889
112	Jamaica	,,
113	Falkland Islands	,,
114	Basutoland	1889–90
115	Sierra Leone	1889
116	Fiji	,,
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118	St. Helena	,,

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6	British New Guinea	1889–90
7	St. Vincent	1890
8	Bermuda	,,
9	Leeward Islands	1889
10	St. Lucia	1890
11	Bahamas	,,
12	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
13	Gibraltar	,,
14	Zululand	,,
15	Sierra Leone	,,
16	Barbados	,,

No. 17.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

[In continuation of Colonial Report No. 113, Old Series.]

Sir R. T. GOLDSWORTHY to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, Stanley,
June 15, 1891.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to enclose herewith two copies of the Annual Blue Book of the Colony for 1890, together with a report thereon by the Acting Colonial Secetary, Mr. F. S. Sanguinetti.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ROGER TUCKFIELD GOLDSWORTHY.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT on the FALKLAND ISLANDS BLUE BOOK, 1890.

Legislation.

During the year 1890 nine Ordinances were passed by the Legislative Council. Of these the following call for remark:—Ordinance No. 2 of 1890.—An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 6 of 1889, to amend the Laws relating to Jurors and Juries. This Ordinance was rendered necessary by the disallowance of an Ordinance to abolish the coroner's court. In Section 1 of Ordinance No. 6 of 1889, no provision was made for jurors at coroners' inquests consequent on the proposed abolition of the coroner's court, but the abolition not being allowed, it became necessary to provide for them.

Ordinance No. 4 of 1890.—An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 2 of 1889, entitled An Ordinance to amend the Customs Consolidation Ordinance, 1882. The amendment was introduced with a view of reducing the tonnage dues on vessels entering at ports of the Colony other than Stanley, the chief port, on the East Island, as complaints had been made of the rates levied which would be severely felt, it was represented, when large steamers called at the West Falkland Island for frozen mutton as it was anticipated they would do. The Ordinance also provides for the appointment by the Officer of Customs in the West Falkland, when ill or unavoidably absent, of a deputy. Advan-

o 68250. Wt. 19750.

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tage was taken to provide at the same time for the importation of perfumery and Cologne water, and lemonade, ginger beer, and ginger ale without the admixture of spirits, free of duty, as also of methylic alcohol under certain restrictions.

Ordinance No. 7 of 1890.—An Ordinance for taking the Census of the Falkland Islands.

Ordinance No. 8 of 1890.—An Ordinance to provide for the insurance of parcels in the post. This Ordinance was framed in consequence of a representation from the Postmaster-General who stated that the insurance on parcels from Great Britain to India had already been established and had worked so satisfactorily that it would probably be established in all Colonies, and it was considered desirable to accede to the suggestion that this Colony should adopt the system.

Ordinance No. 9 of 1889 which provided for compensation to a limited amount in the case of uninsured parcels was repealed, but a similar provision is inserted in the present Ordinance.

Ordinance No. 9 of 1890.—An Ordinance for authorising the sale and conveyance of certain lands of the Crown to the Falkland Islands Company and other lessees of the Crown. In connexion with this Ordinance it seems desirable to set out at some length the history of the legislation affecting the Crown lands.

The first Proclamation, throwing open the Crown lands to settlers, is dated 31st July 1849. Its chief conditions were :—

1. That the purchase of any quantity of rural land of not less than 160 acres could obtain a license, on payment in advance of a rent of 10*l.* per annum, to depasture stock, subject to a limitation of the area of each station between six miles and 24 miles of Stanley at 6,000 acres and beyond 24 miles of Stanley at 10,000 acres. The term of such license was fixed at 20 years in the first instance, renewable by the Governor, no land included in the license to be sold by Government during the continuance of such lease.

   NOTE.—The terms "license" and "lease" are used as taken from the Proclamation. Licenses were first granted to settlers and were afterwards on certain conditions transformed into leases. Boundaries of stations marked out by individuals were to be adopted until a survey could be made, provided the Governor judged that they "reasonably fulfilled" the conditions of the license.

By a Proclamation of the 4th April 1861 any person on application and on payment of 5*l.* could obtain a license to occupy a station for one year only, not renewable. Each station was to contain as near 6,000 acres as convenient. At any time before the expiration of the license, the licensee could obtain a lease of his station for 10 years at a rent of 10*l.* a year, provided he proved that he had erected a house of certain dimensions and had stocked the land with a certain limited number of cattle, horses, or sheep. Within five years the lessee was required to purchase at

the upset price of land for the time being, (not exceeding 8*s.* an acre,) a section containing not less than 160 acres and any further quantity might be purchased at the same price. Provision was made for granting an extension of leases for five years to the lessee under this or the former Proclamation on the same terms as to rent or occupation as in the first lease, but no lessee under the Proclamation of 1849 was to receive an extension of his lease for more than 6,000 acres. No person was to be licensed for more than one section at the same time, and no lessee of any district (district comprising not more than one station, under the Proclamation of 1849) was to be licensed to occupy a station unless his district was stocked and occupied. Every station was to be defined with reference to the nautical chart of the Colony without further survey.

The West Falkland Island was not then taken up, and on the 24th June 1867 a Proclamation respecting the Crown lands on that Island was issued. The conditions prescribed were substantially similar to those in the Proclamation of 1861, except that the licensee might obtain a lease of his station for 20 years at 10*l.* a year for each 6,000 acres.

In 1870 all previous Ordinances and Proclamations were annulled by the enactment of an Amalgamation Ordinance, No. 6 of 1870. Its chief provisions gave settlers on both Islands occupation licenses and running leases for 7, 14, and 21 years at the rent of 6*l.* a year for each section of 6,000 acres for the first 10 years and afterwards at 10*l.* a section. The upset price of land was lowered to 2*s.* an acre. The conditions and concessions of former Proclamations were substantially repeated in this law. The Ordinance was, however, disallowed.

An Ordinance No. 4 was enacted in 1871 fixing the price of country lands at 4*s.* an acre and reserving (for the first time) to the Secretary of State for the Colonies the right to raise or lower the price; otherwise the conditions as to licenses and leases and the compulsory purchase of a certain acreage remained unchanged.

Most of the leases now in force were granted in accordance with the provisions of Ordinance No. 6 of 1870, which, as previously stated, gave the lessees the pre-emptive right of purchase at 2*s.* an acre. Although that Ordinance was disallowed the lessees under it were confirmed in their leases by subsequent Ordinances, and for a long time they contended that they had the right to purchase at 2*s.* an acre all the land they held.

By the Land Ordinance of 1882 the rent reserved in every lease to be granted under that Ordinance, and as leases fell in and were renewed, was raised to 20*l.* a section. After the passing of this Ordinance several lessees applied tentatively to be permitted to purchase their holdings at a price which, when capitalized, would give the same amount of revenue as the 20*l.* rent, or as nearly as possible, supposing 2½ per cent. interest to be obtained, viz., 3*s.* an acre. The first direct application, however, came from the Falkland Island Company, on the 9th September 1890, and was submitted

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to the Secretary of State for the Colonies. The Company desired to purchase 97,128 acres which they held on lease at 3*s.* an acre, the purchase money to be paid within 10 years. This offer was accepted. It became necessary, therefore, to pass an Ordinance authorising the sale of lands at a lower rate than that fixed by the Ordinance of 1871 on condition that lands held by lessees should be purchased "en bloc," thus preventing selection.

Finance.

At the beginning of the financial year, 1st January 1890, a surplus remained of 4,566*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* The revenue of 1890 was 9,492*l.* 12*s.* 2*d.* and the expenditure 9,456*l.* 17*s.* 11*d.*. The receipts show a net increase of 722*l.* 12*s.* 2*d.* over the previous year, the principal increases being customs, 517*l.* 1*s.* 2*d.*; postage, 167*l.* 17*s.* 2*d.*, and interest on savings bank investments (not properly to be classed as revenue) 259*l.* 7*s.* 9*d.* The following is a comparative statement for the last three years of revenue and expenditure :—

	1888.	1889.	1890.
	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*
Revenue - -	8,951 10 4	8,628 0 2	9,492 12 2
Expenditure -	8,818 5 8	9,720 12 8	9,456 17 11

Public Debt.

There is no public debt.

Legislative Council.

Mr. Frederick Shedden Sanguinetti who was appointed to act as Colonial Secretary took his seat on the 29th December 1890.

Civil Establishment.

Mr. Edward Pakenham Brooks, Colonial Secretary, Treasurer, and Police Magistrate proceeded on nine months' leave of absence on the 15th July 1890, and Mr. Frederick Shedden Sanguinetti of the Colonial Secretariat of Jamaica, appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, temporarily assumed Mr. Pakenham Brooks' duties.

W. McDaid, gaoler of Stanley gaol was dismissed on the 2nd June 1890 and H. Adams was appointed in his stead.

Education.

There are two Government schools in the Colony, both in Stanley on the East Island, a senior and an infant school.

The numbers on the rolls in the years 1889 and 1890 were:—

Senior School.

	1890.	1889.
Boys - - - -	52	51
Girls - - - -	32	26
Total - - -	84	77

Infant School.

	1890.	1889.
Boys - - - -	57	36
Girls - - -	58	48
Total - - -	115	84

And the average attendance:—

Senior School.

	1890.	1889.
Boys - - - -	32	35
Girls - - - -	17	20
Total - - -	49	55

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Infant School.

	1890.	1889.
Boys - - - -	25	26
Girls - - - -	26	30
Total - - -	51	56

Through the prevalence of an epidemic of whooping cough the schools were closed for two months during 1890.

The attendance of the children is somewhat fitful, owing in some measure to the help which is required at certain times and seasons by the parents of those children able to give it.

Legitimate excuses for an hour's absence occasionally are put forward such as "taking father's breakfast," and in the summer, "helping to rickle peat." But it must be admitted that many parents are negligent in the matter of their children's education, and although there is legal power to enforce attendance it is not easy to carry it out, as there is no officer specially charged with the duty, and the law is otherwise defective.

An elementary school for boys and girls is conducted by the Roman Catholic priest, the numbers on the books during 1890 being 64. This school receives no aid from the Government. The children in the several "camps" or sheep stations, on the East Island are quite without any means of education with the exception of the Falkland Islands Company's station at Darwin where a schoolmaster is provided by the Company.

On the West Island there is no school of any sort. This state of things is much to be regretted and it seems to call urgently for remedy. The difficulty lies in the scattered location of the houses and the absence of means of communication. A remedy might be provided in the shape of a peripatetic schoolmaster visiting certain centres for these children.

Government Savings Banks.

This bank was opened in April 1888 under the provisions of Ordinance No. 1 of that year. Depositors are allowed 2½ per cent. on their deposits. The number of accounts and the amount

of deposits have been as follows during the three last financial years, which, in this case, end on the 30th September :—

Year.	Number of Depositors.	Total Amount of Deposits.
		£ s. d.
1888 - - - -	32	4,201 1 5
1889 - - - -	100	15,139 4 3
1890 - - - -	157	17,810 12 5

Taking the population to be in round numbers 1,900 this gives an average of 9*l.* 3*s.* 1*d.* per head, excluding an investment on account of intestate estates.

The majority of the depositors are shepherds employed on farms, thrifty, true to the traditions of Scotland, from which country most of them have emigrated. The population of these Islands being limited it is apparent that the deposits may not rise to any great extent for some years.

Withdrawals of considerable sums have taken place from time to time which there is reason to believe have been invested in sheep farming in Patagonia.

The assets of the bank are invested in colonial securities and in consols, the average rate of interest received being 3½ per cent. The Bank showed a net profit of 114*l.* 18*s.* 6*d.* on the 30th September last, after providing for the moderate expenses of management.

Trade.

The value of the imports in each of the last 10 years has been as follows :—

Year.	£
1880 - - - - -	33,505
1881 - - - - -	40,443
1882 - - - - -	35,429
1883 - - - - -	52,913
1884 - - - - -	67,848
1885 - - - - -	48,314
1886 - - - - -	73,602
1887 - - - - -	66,785
1888 - - - - -	54,008
1889 - - - - -	55,716
1890 - - - - -	67,182

showing an increase over the average of the three previous years of 8,346*l.*

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

The exports for the corresponding period were as follows :—

Year.	£
1880 - - - - -	88,564
1881 - - - - -	87,919
1882 - - - - -	76,922
1883 - - - - -	84,593
1884 - - - - -	101,338
1885 - - - - -	97,846
1886 - - - - -	108,946
1887 - - - - -	107,995
1888 - - - - -	88,743
1889 - - - - -	116,102
1890 - - - - -	115,845

being an increase of 1,565*l.* over the average of the three previous years and a slight decrease of 257*l.* as compared wit last year.

Public Works.

Under this head a sum of 1,110*l.* 15*s.* 8*d.* was expended during 1890. Owing to the want of any system in carrying out public works, it is impossible to specify with any approach to accuracy what has been the result of the expenditure. It may, however, be mentioned that a substantial sea-wall of about 100 yards has been built in Stanley and that the two school-houses in that town have been put into a state of good repair.

The condition of most of the Government buildings, inadequate as they are in construction and accommodation for the uses to which they are put, the unformed streets and roads, and the absence of proper drainage in the town of Stanley, must lead to a large expenditure in the future if this state of things is to be remedied.

Vital Statistics.

The population of these islands may be very fairly taken taken as 1,973. The births registered during 1890 number 75, being ·038 of the population, and the deaths 28, almost exactly one-half of the increase. The death-rate was swollen this year by an epidemic of whooping cough and influenza which was mostly confined to children, and prevailed to a sad extent for so small a community on the East Island during the closing months of the year.

The Colonial Surgeon, who resides at Stanley, on the East Island, reports that the rarity of pulmonary complaints there is remarkable, and, he considers, peculiar to the Falklands. The air, he points out, is very pure; abundant ozone and iodine, set free from the kelp, contribute to its health-giving character acting as prophylactics against pulmonary phthisis. The same authority remarks in his annual report:—"Many children have died from tabes misenterica, " or abdominal phthisis, a scrofulous disease of mal-nutrition, the " food not being assimilated to the animal economy." He ascribes as a prominent cause, "early marriages and neglect of " hygienic rules." Of the dwellings of the majority of the labouring

classes in Stanley it may safely be said that cleanliness is little sought after, and that their surroundings are highly insanitary.

Of the West Falklands the Assistant Colonial Surgeon reports that during the year there was a severe outbreak of whooping-cough among the Fuegians on Keppel Island, the centre of the operations of the South American mission. "All natives," he says, "were attacked as well as one adult European." Five deaths occurred among the natives. The same officer further draws attention to the fact that two kinds of catarrh are very prevalent at all times in the West Island, viz., nasal catarrh and gastro-intestinal catarrh, the latter most common in children. But he is unable to give any reason for the prevalence of these two forms of disease.

General.

The winter of 1890 was fair throughout, little snow fell and the frosts were not severe. The summer was very wet, with the beneficial result of abundance of pasturage and good garden crops.

On the sheep farms the lambing was above the average, and the clip of wool exceptionally heavy. The Falkland Islands wool of 1889 realised, it is understood, from 6*d.* to 10*d.* per lb. all round. It is too early yet to say what the 1890 wool has fetched, as all of it has not yet been shipped.

The artisan and labouring classes in this Colony have much to congratulate themselves upon. A carpenter's wage averages 1*s.* an hour, and when engaged on the repairs of ships 2*s.* an hour or 16*s.* 8*d.* a day. Stonemasons receive 8*s.* 4*d.* to 12*s.* 6*d.* a day, and an ordinary labourer 6*s.* a day. Actual necessaries of life are very cheap. Beef is 3*d.* per lb., and mutton 2½*d.* per lb., bread is 3*d.* per lb. Peat, the usual firing and cooking material, costs only the labour of cutting and carting. In the absence of competition, however, such articles as clothing, tea, and butter are much higher than in England. There are no taxes worth mentioning. It would seem that there is room for many more artisans in the colony. A few more blacksmiths and tinsmiths, carpenters and joiners, masons, boot-makers, and tailors would restore the balance between labour and capital, now greatly in favour of the former.

The community is very orderly, crime being rare. There was only one case brought before the Supreme Court during the year, and in other places would have been disposed of summarily by the police magistrate. Nine ships put into Stanley Harbour in distress, less than the usual number. It is to be feared that the delays and high charges incident to the repair of vessels here have rendered the port a place to be avoided if possible.

(Signed) FRED. SHEDDEN SANGUINETTI,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Stanley, Falkland Islands.
June 19, 1891.

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For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 45.

FIJI.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1890.

(For Report for 1889, *see* Colonial Report No. 116, Old Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
August 1892.



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1892.

[C.—6829.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
9	Leeward Islands	1889
10	St. Lucia	1890
11	Bahamas	,,
12	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
13	Gibraltar	,,
14	Zululand	,,
15	Sierra Leone	,,
16	Barbados	,,
17	Falkland Islands	,,
18	Labuan	,,
19	British Honduras	,,
20	Basutoland	1890–91
21	Trinidad (Tobago)	1890
22	Leeward Islands	,,
23	Grenada	,,
24	Straits Settlements	,,
25	British Guiana	,,
26	St. Helena	,,
27	Mauritius	,,
28	Gambia	,,
29	Hong Kong	,,
30	Ceylon	1889
31	Lagos	,,
32	Lagos	1890
33	Ceylon	,,
34	Newfoundland	,,
35	Jamaica	1889–91
36	Victoria	1890
37	British New Guinea	1890–91
38	St. Vincent	1891
39	Bermuda	,,
40	Seychelles, and Rodrigues	1889 and 1890
41	Gambia	1891
42	Barbados	,,
43	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
44	Bahamas	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.

No. 45.

FIJI.

[For Report for 1889, *see* Colonial Report No. 116, Old Series.]

Sir JOHN B. THURSTON to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, Suva, Fiji,
August 31, 1890.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit for your Lordship's information a very interesting and able report upon the Blue Book for the year 1890 drawn up by Mr. James Stewart, the Assistant Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN B. THURSTON.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.,
The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

COLONY OF FIJI.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF THE YEAR 1890

I.—FINANCE.

The progressive financial position of the Colony is shownby the following statement of the revenue and expenditure and the accruing surplus or deficit during each of the past five years:—

FIJI.

Statement showing the Revenue and Expenditure, with the Surplus or Deficit, of each Year from 1886 *to* 1890 *inclusive.*

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.			Surplus.	Deficit.
		Establishments.	Exclusive of Establishments.	Total.		
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1886 -	64,574 1 1	38,407 2 6	39,726 5 8	78,133 8 2	—	13,559 7 1
1887 -	64,916 2 9	33,499 7 8	39,651 5 5	73,150 13 1	—	8,234 10 4
1888 -	65,018 14 8	25,009 3 11	33,983 16 6	58,993 0 5	6,025 14 3	—
1889 -	63,722 0 6	22,219 0 10	35,491 1 5	57,710 2 3	6,011 18 3	—
1890 -	66,817 5 1	25,199 5 5	35,627 1 1	60,826 6 6	5,990 18 7	—

The revenue of the year, it will be seen, amounted to 66,817*l.* 5*s.* 1*d.*, a sum greater than that received in any of the previous four years.

The receipts were in excess of the estimate by 2,817*l.* 5*s.* 1*d.*

The expenditure, which exceeded the estimate by the sum of 1,541*l.* 10*s.* 5*d.* amounted to 60,826*l.* 6*s.* 6*d.*

There thus accrued for the year a surplus of receipts over expenditure amounting to 5,990*l.* 18*s.* 7*d.*, or, in round figures, six thousand pounds.

This annual surplus, it will be observed, has now been maintained for three consecutive years.

The following analysis of the revenue shows:—

(1.) Amount of revenue collected under each head for the years 1889 and 1890.

(2.) The increase or decrease on each item for the year 1890, as compared with the corresponding receipts of the year 1889.

(3.) The proportion per centum of revenue accruing under each head during the years 1887, 1888, 1889, and 1890.

Comparative Yearly Statement of the Revenue.

Tax or Duty.	Amount Collected in the Year 1890.	Amount collected in the Year 1889.	Increase.	Decrease.	Proportion per Centum of Revenue accruing under each Head.			
					1890.	1889.	1888.	1887.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.				
Customs dues	26,158 14 4	27,131 8 3	—	972 13 11	39·15	42·58	37·79	38·00
Warehouse and wharfage dues	2,828 19 1	2,822 3 2	6 15 11	—	4·23	4·43	4·89	4·95
Pilotage, light, and shipping	1,345 8 3	1,423 17 5	—	78 9 2	2·01	2·23	2·48	2·34
General licenses	3,588 16 0	3,561 13 6	27 2 6	—	5·37	5·59	5·56	5·65
Native taxes	20,770 16 3	17,184 19 4	3,585 16 11	—	31·09	26·97	30·23	25·29
Fees, fines, and forfeitures	1,463 8 4	1,419 18 9	43 9 7	—	2·19	2·23	2·61	2·94
Postal dues	1,889 13 1	1,896 17 1	—	7 4 0	2·83	2·98	2·74	3·84
Stamps	1,657 8 8	1,440 8 4	217 0 4	—	2·48	2·26	1·89	1·49
Hospitals	1,061 8 4	1,642 12 9	—	581 4 5	1·59	2·58	2·58	4·12
Freights	69 8 0	71 2 0	—	1 14 0	·10	·11	·06	·09
Miscellaneous	3,998 14 11	3,479 3 4	519 11 7	—	5·98	5·46	5·66	6·08
Fees on Crown grants and surveys	177 16 11	159 11 6	18 5 5	—	0·27	·25	·64	1·03
Land sales	—	63 15 3	—	63 15 3	Nil.	·10	·23	·81
Suva water rate	869 18 10	853 13 0	16 5 10	—	1·30	1·34	1·11	·82
Registration fees	333 10 6	303 11 10	34 18 8	—	·50	·48	·58	·38
Native industrial school	10 0 0	—	10 0 0	—	·01	Nil.	·15	·44
Receipts, labour depôt	488 16 11	267 5 0	221 11 11	—	·73	·42	·79	1·69
Repayment of former advances for returning Polynesian immigrants	99 6 8	—	99 6 8	—	.15	Nil.	Nil.	·01
Total	66,817 5 1	63,722 0 6	4,800 5 4	1,705 0 9	—	—	—	—

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Customs Duties.

The receipts under the head of customs dues, which form 39·15 per centum of the total revenue, show a decrease, as compared with the previous year of 972*l.* 13*s.* 11*d.* This decrease was entirely owing to the interruption of trade by labour strikes in the neighbouring Australasian Colonies, which prevented the regular loading and sailing of vessels from ports in those Colonies, and consequently lessened the imports, and the import duties. The amount of customs duties received is equal to an ad valorem rate of 13·35 per centum on the total value of goods imported for use in the colony.

Native Taxes.

There was an increase of 760*l.* in the assessment of native taxes for the year over that of the previous year, the increase being divided among five provinces, as follows :—

Province of Pai Leon 100*l.* Increased from 1,900*l.* to 2,000*l.* at the request of the people.

Province of Rewa 70*l.* Increased from 930*l.* to 1,000*l.*, in view of the increased cultivation of sugar cane in this province, which necessitates additional expenditure by the Treasury in the management of the cultivation, but makes the work of tax-paying easier for the contributors.

Province of Nadraga 80*l.* Increased from 720*l.* to 800*l.* in view of the increased price of copra and the comparative ability of the province to pay the assessment.

Island of Rotumah 50*l.* Increased from 450*l.* to 500*l.* for the same reason.

Province of Ba 460*l.* Increased from 1,040*l.* to 1,500*l.* The cultivation of sugar cane and consequent ability of the province to pay the assessment has increased greatly in this province since its assessment was fixed.

The total assessment of native taxes for the year was 19,740*l.*

The total amount contributed to the public revenue from native taxes was 20,770*l.* 16*s.* 3*d.*, being 3,585*l.* 16*s.* 11*d.* in excess of the corresponding receipt of the year 1889, and 1,030*l.* 16*s.* 3*d.* in excess of the assessment for 1890. This arose in part through the increased assessment before referred to, and partly through the collection of deficits from previous years.

The revenue from native taxes forms 31·09 per centum of the total revenue of the year.

The taxes were contributed principally in copra and sugar cane, but maize, tobacco, yams, yagona (macra piper mythisticum) and beche de mer were also received.

The sale of this produce realized, in addition to the sum of 20,770*l.* contributed to the public revenue, and the cost of the freight of the produce from the provinces to the port of sale, a

sum of 4,315*l.*, which was returned to the districts that had made contributions in excess of their assessment.

The items of direct taxation (*i.e.* Customs dues, native taxes, general licences, and stamp duties) amount in the aggregate to 52,175*l.* 15*s.* 3*d.*, which forms the proportion of 78·09 per cent. of the total revenue.

The revenue from direct taxation is equal to eight shillings and sevenpence (8*s.* 7*d.*) per head of the total population.

The revenue derived from sources other than taxation amounts to 14,641*l.* 9*s.* 10*d.*, which is equal to 21·91 per cent. of the total revenue, or two shillings and fivepence (2*s.* 5*d.*) per head of population.

The total revenue of the colony is thus nearly equal to 11*s.* per head of the population.

Expenditure.

The following statement shows the expenditure for the year 1890 as compared with the previous year.

Division.	1890.	1889.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1. Civil Establishments - -	19,398 19 4	17,047 4 6	2,351 14 10	—
Contingent Expenditure -	30,503 8 11	30,614 10 5	—	111 1 6
2. Judicial Establishments -	5,800 6 1	5,171 16 4	628 9 9	—
Contingent Expenditure -	1,412 6 1	1,290 16 8	121 9 5	—
3. Miscellaneous Expenditure	3,446 16 5	3,335 14 4	111 2 1	—
4. Pensions - - - - -	264 9 8	250 0 0	14 9 8	—
	60,826 6 6	57,710 2 3	3,227 5 9	111 1 6
Net Increase - -	—	—	3,116 4 3	—

The increased expenditure under the heading of establishments, as compared with the previous year, arises from the fact that from the beginning of the year 1890 the salaries of officers were paid in full, the special salary tax which "in order to equalise revenue and expenditure" had been imposed during the previous three years having been abolished as from 1st January, 1890. The medical staff was kept up to its full strength during the year, whereas there were several vacancies in the staff during the year 1889.

The excess of the actual over the estimated expenditure, amounting to 1,541*l.* 10*s.* 5*d.*, arose mainly (1) from the payment of salaries at full rates, (2) from the refunding of 592*l.* 19*s.* 3*d.* being one quarter of the tax imposed on official salaries during the year 1889, (3) the granting of a subsidy of 650*l.* in order

to retain the services of an interinsular steamer within the group.

The total expenditure is equal to a fraction over 10*s.* per head of the population.

II. Municipalities and Local Public Bodies.

The town and school boards of the towns of Suva and Levuka are the only local bodies in the Colony who have authority to levy rates.

The town boards control the roads, lighting and general sanitary affairs of the towns and are empowered to levy a general rate not to exceed one shilling per annum per pound of rental on buildings and lands within the boundaries of the towns and a rate for special purposes, which also may not exceed one shilling per pound of rental.

Government sanitary grants of 150*l.* and 100*l.* respectively were paid to the towns of Suva and Levuka during the year.

Until the end of the year 1890, the town boards also performed the duties of school boards within their respective districts. The schools were maintained by fees, by rates amounting on an average to about sixpence per pound on the rental of the towns and by Government grant equal to the estimated amounting rates.

Government grants of 245*l.* and 166*l* 13*s.* respectively were paid to the school boards of Suva and Levuka.

The gross revenue and expenditure of those boards for the past year are shown in the following statement:—

Board.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*
Suva Town Board - - -	1,487 7 10	1,397 13 6
„ School Board - - -	604 5 1	554 5 1
Levuka Town Board - -	746 7 9	691 2 11
„ School Board - -	391 9 4	358 18 1
Total - -	3,229 10 0	3,001 19 7

There is no local public debt.

III.—Public Debt.

The total amount of Public debt at the end of the year was 248,989*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.*

The debt was reduced during the year by the statutory liquidation.

Particulars of the amounts borrowed and of the manner in which they have been expended will be found in the Report on the Blue Book of last year (Colonial Possessions Report No. 116).

The public debt is equal to 2*l.* 1*s.* 1*d.* per head of the population; or to nearly four years revenue.

In addition to the public debt there was a floating indebtedness at 31st December 1890 amounting to 13,905*l.* 1*s.* 5*d.*

During the past three years the floating indebtedness (which has accrued in previous years owing to the excess of expenditure over revenue) has been reduced by the surplus revenue which has amounted in the aggregate to 18,028*l.* 11*s.* 1*d.*

The amount of 13,905*l.* 1*s.* 5*d.* still outstanding, will, it is hoped, be wiped out within the next few years, although it can hardly be expected that the annual surplus of six thousand pounds, which has been maintained during the past three years, can be continued, inasmuch as expenditure on public works, which has been postponed from year to year, cannot with any regard to economy be longer delayed.

IV.—Public Works.

The following statement indicates the nature and extent of the operations of the Public Works Department during the year:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
1. Constructing and repairing roads in the vicinity of Suva				386	4	0
2. Repair to Wharfs:—						
Suva Wharf	110	6	4			
Levuka Wharf	274	11	1			
				384	17	5
3. Repairs and Additions:—						
Repairs to Government offices	353	3	2			
Repairs to Government House	221	19	0			
Water supply to Suva	4	1	4			
Repairs and provision of stipendiary magistrates' quarters	313	3	2			
Repairs to gaol, hospital, depot, &c.	318	2	0			
				1,346	8	8
4. Repair and upkeep of lighthouses				545	15	6
5. Constructing Suva native market in addition to the sum of 308*l.* 12*s.* 8*d.* contributed by the natives)				148	12	10
6. Upkeep of Botanic Station				222	9	8
Total				£3,034	8	1

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V.—LEGISLATION.

The following Ordinances have been passed by the Legislative Council during the year :—

Ordinances.

No. I.—To authorise the expenditure of 3,688*l.* 14*s.* 9*d.*, for the service of the year ending the 31st day of December 1889 in excess of the amount already sanctioned by Ordinance.

No. II.—To amend the Law relating to the Fraudulent Marking of Merchandise.

No. III.—To indemnify all persons in respect of anything done under "The Marine Board Ordinances, 1880 to 1888."

No. IV.—Relating to Polynesian Immigrants indentured prior to the 1st day of January 1889.

No. V.—To appropriate a sum not exceeding 63,716*l.* 5*s.* 4*d.* for the service of the year ending the 31st day of December in the year of our Lord 1891.

No. VI.—To create the Wardens of Towns Justices of the Peace.

No. VII.—To regulate the Assessment and Collection of Native taxes.

No. VIII.—To amend Ordinance No. V., 1889, intituled "An Ordinance to repeal Ordinance, No. XXXI. of 1876, intituled 'An Ordinance for the Regulation of a force of Armed Native Constabulary,' and to make other provisions in lieu thereof."

No. IX.—For taking the Census.

No. X.—To amend the Divorce Ordinances, 1883 to 1889.

No. XI.—To amend and declare the Law relating to Masters and Servants.

No. XII.—To amend "The Postal Ordinance, 1877."

No. XIII.—To amend "The Native Labour Ordinance, 1883 and 1886."

No. XIV.—To provide for Public Education.

Ordinance No. II. assimulates the Law of the Colony with the Imperial law relating to the Fraudulent Marking of Merchandise.

Ordinance No. IV. regulates the payment of the cost of Return Passage of Polynesian Immigrants who were introduced under the old Immigration Law ; but who would fall to be re-indentured under the new Ordinance.

Ordinance No. VII. makes more clear the status and duties of the District and Provincial Boards of Assessment.

Ordinance No. X. fixes the fee to be paid on presentation of petitions for Divorce.

Ordinance No. XI. re-enacts, with some desirable alterations, the tentative Ordinance of 1888 declaring the Law relating to Masters and Servants.

Ordinance No. XII. makes provision for the establishment of of the Parcel-post, for the issue of postal notes, of postcards and stamped envelopes, and for the payment of masters of unsubsidised foreign-going vessels for the carriage of mails.

Ordinance No. XIII. simplifies the mode of recruiting native labourers, provides penalties for bribery in connection therewith, improves the Law relating to the rationing and housing of native labourers, and to the manner in which they are to be paid off and returned to their homes.

Ordinance No. XIV. provides for the establishment and election of separate School Boards within constituted districts for the compulsory and free education of the children belonging to such districts, for the payment of a Government grant on average attendance between the age of 6 and 13, for the levying of rates in aid of education, and for the management of public schools, generally.

VI.—Councils.

The only alteration in the membership of the Council was the appointment of Mr. George Smith, of Levuka, to be a member of the Legislative Council, in the place of Mr. George Morgan, who has resigned.

VII.—Civil Establishment.

The following are the principal alterations that were made during the year:—

Mr. James Stewart was promoted from the post of Chief Clerk of the Colonial Secretary's Office to that of Assistant Colonial Secretary.

A junior clerk was appointed to the audit and one to the Treasury Departments, to relieve the pressure of work there.

Mr. Joseph Ogilvie Forth was appointed to be Chief Clerk of the Audit Office, *vice* Mr. Herbert George Brown, deceased.

Mr. G. A. F. W. Beauclerc was appointed to be Clerk of Native Accounts in place of Mr. Forth.

Mr. John R. Farewell, Stipendiary Magistrate for the provinces of Macuata and Bua, was appointed to be Superintendent of Police.

Mr. Walter J. F. Hopkins, Cashier for Immigration Accounts, was appointed to succeed Mr. Farewell as Stipendiary Magistrate of Macuata and Bua.

Mr. Frederick Sydney Henry, Assistant Commissioner of Colo West, was appointed to be Cashier of Immigration Accounts and Clerk in the Treasuary.

Mr. George Wright was appointed to be Sergeant-major of Armed Native Constabulary and Inspector of Native Tax Plantations in Colo West.

Mr. I. H. Groom was promoted from the office of Clerk in the Post Office at Levuka to be Postmaster there.

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Dr. G. W. A. Lynch took office as the fifth District Medical Officer.

Mr. W. L. Allardyce, Stipendiary Magistrate for Namosi, Serua, and Kadavu was appointed to be Assistant Native Commissioner, and also to retain the post of Stipendiary Magistrate of Kadavu.

Mr. Basil H. Thomson was appointed a Commissioner to enquire into the ownership of Native Lands.

Mr. C. R. Swayne, Stipendiary Magistrate at Lau, was appointed to be also Assistant Native Commissioner iu Lau and Inspector of Taxes in that province.

Mr. Alfred Barrack was appointed to be Instructor in Boat-building at Yanawai Technical School.

Four European and twelve native officers resigned; two European and ten native officers were dismissed; and five native officers died during the year.

Sick leave was granted during the year to three officers, one of whom, Mr. Herbert George Brown, Chief Clerk of the Audit Office, died on the 11th May in Sydney; and another has since permanently resigned his appointment through the breaking down of his health.

Leave of absence has been granted to two officers during the year, to one of them on urgent private affairs, and to the other in order that he might assist the Government of the King of Tonga in establishing the finances and internal government of that kingdom on a satisfactory basis.

The exigencies of the public service have been such during the year that leave of absence, in the ordinary sense of that term, has been practically unobtainable. This condition of things has now existed for four years, during which period the service has been so sparsely manned that the temporary illness of any officer (an event of fortunately rare occurrence) carries with it the probability of throwing the machinery of his department completely out of gear. Thirty-two officers gave security in the aggregate sum of 6,700*l.* for the due discharge of their duties.

No addition was made to the Pension List.

VIII.—POPULATION.

A complete return of the population at the end of the year 1890 has not been obtained, as the provincial department have been unable to furnish the statistics relating to the native population.

The following return gives, in a comparative form, the population of the Colony as ascertained at the census of 1881, and at the recent census of 5th April 1891:—

	1891.			1881.				
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Increase.	Decrease.
Europeans - - -	1,273	763	2,036	1,879	792	2,671	—	635
Half-castes - - -	529	547	1,076	387	384	771	305	—
Indians - - - -	4,998	2,470	7,468	388	200	588	6,880	—
Polynesians - - -	1,923	344	2,267	5,629	471	6,100	—	3,833
Fijians - - - -	56,445	49,355	105,800	60,899	53,849	114,748	—	8,948
Rotumans - - -	1,056	1,163	2,219	1,126	1,326	2,452	—	233
Others - - -	143	171	314	93	63	156	158	—
Total - -	66,367	54,813	121,180	70,401	57,085	127,486	7,343	13,649

Net decrease 6,306.

FIJI.

From the foregoing return it will be seen that, during the decade, a decrease has occurred among the European, Polynesian, Fijian and Rotuman elements of the population, amounting in the aggregate to 13,649; and that there has been a total increase of half-castes, Indians and others of 7,343, giving a net decrease of 6,306.

The decrease of Polynesians is accounted for by the fact that on sugar-cane plantations Polynesian labour has been displaced by that of the Indian immigrants, who have been found more suitable for the work.

The provincial department do not believe that the decrease of the native population has amounted to 8,948 during the decade.

The enumeration made in 1879 put the native population at 108,924 souls. The census of 1881 returned the native population at 114,748 souls, or an increase during the two years of 5,711. Such an increase certainly did not take place, and it is now believed that the census of 1881 was not an accurate one. It was then the desire of the various divisions of the native population to make themselves appear as numerous and important as possible; but, by the time the census of 1891 came to be taken, it had dawned on the native mind that the assessment of the taxes of the several provinces would be effected by the ascertained number of the population.

I give these views for what they are worth. But the quarterly returns of births, deaths, and marriages furnished to the provincial department during the decade (which may be regarded as approximately correct) indicate a total decrease of some 4,500 souls.

The following point, however, is worthy of consideration, as the returns of the missions at work in the Colony are entitled to the greatest respect.

In 1881, when the native population was returned at 114,748, (the total population of the Colony being 127,486) the Ecclesiastical returns showed the following number of Church adherents, viz.:—

Wesleyan Mission - - - -	102,736
Roman Catholic Mission - - -	9,000
Total - - - -	111,736

being about three thousand less than the enumerated native population.

In 1891, when the enumeated native population amounts to 105,800 (the total population being 121,180), the ecclesistical

returns show the adherents of the two missions to be as follows:— FIJI.

Wesleyan Mission - - - -	103,829
Roman Catholic Mission - - -	10,402
Total - - - -	114,231

These numbers have increased notwithstanding the apparent decrease of population.

But the ecclesiastical returns embrace a portion of the non-Fijian population of the Colony. Let it be conceded that the following proportions of the non-Fijian population are so included:—

Europeans (say) - - - -	1,000
Half-castes (all) - - - -	1,076
Indians (say) - - - - -	100
Polynesians (say) - - - -	600
Rotumans (all) - - - -	2,219
Others (all) - - - - -	314
Total - - - - -	5,309

The foregoing allowance is an ample one, and if the number thus obtained be deducted from the total number of Wesleyan and Roman Catholic adherents in the Colony the number of native Fijian Church adherents should be arrived at.

The total number of Church adherents is -	114,231
Deduct the non-Fijian element - -	5,309
No of Fijian adherents - - -	108,922

This number is in excess of the Fijian population returned at the census by 3,122.

Hence it would appear that either the ecclesiastical returns or the census returns are in error to, at least, that extent.

The following table, giving the population of the various islands so far as the information can be ascertained from the returns received, may be of interest:—

CENSUS OF FIFTH APRIL, 1891.

RETURN showing the POPULATION of the various ISLANDS of the COLONY.

Island Homestead of	Europeans and other Whites.			Half-castes.			Indians.			Polynesians.			Fijians.			Others.			Total.		
	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.
Viti Levu - -	860	527	1,387	218	211	429	4,763	2,352	7,115	1,268	195	1,463	30,974	26,988	57,962	75	82	157	38,158	30,355	68,513
Vanua Levu -	111	55	166	105	131	236	41	20	61	82	21	103	9,663	8,503	18,166	10	6	16	10,012	8,736	18,748
Taviuni - -	52	32	84	35	34	69	149	78	227	205	51	256	941	593	1,534	2	2	4	1,384	790	2,174
Kadavu - -	12	6	18	11	23	34	..	..	..	5	..	5	3,549	3,289	6,838	..	..	..	3,577	3,318	6,895
Lau, Totoya - -	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	344	262	606	..	..	..	344	262	606
„ Cicia - -	4	..	4	3	..	3	..	..	..	8	..	8	195	176	371	..	2	2	210	178	388
„ Matuku -	1	..	1	1	2	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	352	292	644	..	..	..	354	294	648
„ Vulaga -	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	215	199	414	..	..	..	215	199	414
„ Moala - -	3	..	3	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	390	353	743	..	..	..	393	354	747
„ Kabara -	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	279	309	588	..	..	..	279	309	588
„ Oreata - -	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	69	64	133	..	..	..	69	64	133
„ Nayau -	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	121	119	240	..	..	..	121	119	240
„ Ono - -	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	273	233	506	..	..	..	274	233	507
Carried forward -	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

RETURN showing the POPULATION of the various ISLANDS of the COLONY—*continued.*

Island Homestead of	Europeans and other Whites.			Half-castes.			Indians.			Polynesians.			Fijians.			Others.			Total.		
	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.
Brought forward																					
Lau, Lakeba -	6	3	9	3	3	6	..	..	..	4	1	5	534	435	969	..	..	..	547	442	989
„ Moce - -	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	98	79	177	..	..	..	98	79	177
„ Cikobia -	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12	9	21	..	..	..	12	9	21
„ Tuvuca - -	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	33	28	61	..	..	..	33	28	61
„ Vanua Balaac „ Mango - -	20	5	25	10	18	28	17	3	20	125	29	154	723	548	1,271	1	2	3	896	605	1,501
„ Susui - -	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	36	28	64	..	..	..	36	28	64
„ Yavea - -	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	35	41	76	..	..	..	35	41	76
Kadavu Dravuni -	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	40	41	81	..	..	..	40	41	81
„ Bulia -	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	48	33	81	..	..	..	48	33	81
„ Galoa -	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	70	65	135	..	..	..	70	65	135
Bega - - -	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	387	338	725	..	..	..	387	338	725
Serua Yanuca -	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	109	91	200	..	..	..	109	91	200
„ Serua -	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	72	83	155	..	..	..	72	83	155
Nadrago Vatulele	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	191	157	348	..	..	..	191	157	348
Carried forward -	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

RETURN showing the POPULATION of the various ISLANDS of the COLONY—*continued.*

Island Homestead of	Europeans and other Whites.			Half-castes.			Indians.			Polynesians.			Fijians.			Others.			Total.		
	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.
Brought forward																					
Nadroga, Malolo -	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	159	151	310	..	..	..	159	151	310
Ra Malake -	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	38	43	81	..	..	..	38	43	81
Jaileon Qoma -	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	42	28	70	..	..	..	42	28	70
„ Bau -	5	4	9	6	1	7	1	..	1	2	..	2	319	245	564	..	1	1	333	251	584
„ Vuva -	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	64	48	112	..	..	..	64	48	112
„ Naigani -	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	36	21	57	..	..	..	36	21	57
Lomai Viti Wakaya	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	..	8	11	..	11	..	..	..	19	..	19
„ Nairai -	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	242	260	502	..	..	..	242	260	502
„ Gau -	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	927	828	1,755	..	..	..	927	828	1,755
„ Ovalau -	192	128	320	129	118	247	19	12	31	206	41	247	1,037	923	1,960	53	76	129	1,636	1,298	2,934
„ Batiki -	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	161	157	318	..	..	..	161	157	318
„ Moturiki	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	286	250	536	..	..	..	289	250	536
„ Koro -	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	706	634	1,340	..	..	..	706	634	1,340
Cukandrove Yacata	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	66	41	107	..	..	..	66	41	107
„ Yanuca -	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14	8	22	..	..	..	14	8	22
Carried forward -	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

RETURN showing the POPULATION of the various ISLANDS of the COLONY—*continued.*

Island Homestead of	Europeans and other Whites.			Half-castes.			Indians.			Polynesians.			Fijians.			Others.			Total.		
	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T
Brought forward																					
Cukandrove Nagelelevu.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11	11	22	..	..	..	11	11	22
„ Qamea -	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	242	209	451	..	..	..	242	209	451
„ Laucala -	2	3	5	3	2	5	..	..	..	2	2	4	5	1	6	..	..	..	12	8	20
„ Rabi -	1	..	1	..	..	..	7	5	12	8	3	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	16	8	24
Bua Yadua -	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	52	43	95	..	..	..	52	43	95
„ Yaqaga -	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	23	17	40	..	..	..	23	17	40
„ Javea - -	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	47	56	103	..	..	..	47	56	103
„ Galoa -	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	91	97	188	..	..	..	91	97	188
Macuata Macuataiwai.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	60	52	112	..	..	..	60	52	112
„ Kia -	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	84	83	167	..	..	..	84	83	167
„ Jutu -	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9	7	16	..	..	..	9	7	16
„ Kavewa -	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.	..	24	37	61	..	..	..	24	37	61
„ Namukalan (approximate)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16	14	30	..	..	..	16	14	30
Carried forward -	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

RETURN showing the POPULATION of the various ISLANDS of the COLONY—*continued.*

Island Homestead of	Europeans and other Whites.			Half-castes.			Indians.			Polynesians.			Fijians.			Others.			Total.		
	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.
Brought forward																					
Macuata Gevo -	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	7	17	..	..	..	10	7	17
„ Druadrua -	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	28	15	43	..	..	..	28	15	43
„ Mali -	1	..	1	2	..	2	1	..	1	..	..	..	115	113	228	2	..	2	121	113	234
„ Cikobia -	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	98	101	199	..	..	..	98	101	199
„ Jelagica -	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	2
Yasawa Nacula -	1	..	1	3	3	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	448	391	839	..	..	..	452	394	846
„ Viwa -	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	135	114	249	..	..	..	135	114	249
„ Waya -	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	329	318	647	..	..	..	329	318	647
„ Naviti -	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	374	349	723	..	..	..	374	949	723
„ Yasawa -	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	383	327	710	..	..	..	383	327	710
Kotumah - -	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,056	1,163	2,219	1,056	1,163	2,219
Total - -	1,273	763	2,036	529	547	1,076	4,998	2,470	7,468	1,923	344	2,267	56,445	49,355	105,800	1,199	1,334	2,533	66,367	54,813	121,180

IX.—IMMIGRATION.

The introduction and return of Indian and Polynesian Immigrants have been as follows:—

Indians arrived- - - -	1,161
Polynesians arrived - - -	200
Total - - - -	1,361
Indians returned home - - -	149
Polynesians returned home - -	119
Total - - -	268
Increase during the year - - -	1,093

The total number of Indians and Polynesians in the Colony is shown under the head of Population.

X.—ECCLESIASTICAL RETURN.

The following statistics are supplied by the Wesleyan and the Roman Catholic missions.

Wesleyan Mission.

Churches - - - -	934
Other preaching places - - -	396
European missionaries - - -	10
Native ministers - - - -	69
Catechists - - - -	51
Teachers - - - -	1,126
Local preachers - - -	1,825
Class leaders - - - -	3,433
Church members (English and Native) -	29,161
On trial for membership - -	5,229
Communicants - - - -	14
Catechumens - - - -	5,098
Day schools - - - -	1,946
Day school scholars - - -	40,574
Day school teachers - - -	2,493
Sabbath schools - - -	1,738
Sabbath school scholars - - -	40,532
Sabbath school teachers - - -	2,648
Adherents - - - -	103,829

Roman Catholic Mission.

European missionaries - - -	18
Churches and chapels - - -	76
Training institutions (European) - -	3
„ „ (Native) - -	6
Native teachers - - - -	160
European sisters - - -	19
Adherents - - - -	10,402

XI.—EDUCATION.

The average attendance at the English Public Schools during the year has been:—

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Suva School - - -	39	40	79
Levuka - - -	41	36	77
Total - - -	—	—	156

Sixty selected native youths have received tuition during the year at the Yanawai Technical School. The subjects comprise primary education, boat-building, carpenter work, and planting.

XII.—PUBLICATIONS.

The following is a return of the newspapers published in the Colony, with their reputed circulation:—

"Fiji Times," issued twice a week at Suva; circulation, 600.

"Levuka Times," issued at Levuka once a week; circulation, 120.

"Wa Mata," Fijian newspaper, published by the Colonial Government at Suva monthly. In this paper is printed all native regulations, Government notices, changes in appointments, and other matters of an official character, of which the native population would otherwise obtain only very tardy notice; circulation, 450.

"Fiji Royal Gazette," published at Suva about five times per month; circulation, 175.

XIII.—TRADE AND COMMERCE.

The following table shows:

(1.) The average for the 12 years, ending with the year 1886, f the annual import and export trade.

(2.) The proportion which the imports (*a*) for use in the Colony (*b*) for exportation; and exports (*a*) the produce of the Colony (*b*) imported for exportation, bear to the total trade for the same period.

(3.) The total import and export trade for each of the four years ending with 1890.

(4.) The proportion which, during the four years, each division bears to the total trade.

Total Trade of the Colony.

—	Imports.			Exports.			
	For use in the Colony.	Imported for Exportation.	Total.	Product of the Colony.	Imported Produce Exported.	Total.	Total Trade.
	£ s. d.	£. s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Average for the 12 years from 1875 to 1886 inclusive - - - -	231,574 12 0	27,878 17 5	259,453 9 5	188,500 19 4	28,357 14 6	216,853 13 10	476,312 3 3
Proportion which for that period each division bears to the Total Trade - - - - - - -	48·62 per cent.	5·85 per cent.	54·47 per cent.	39·58 per cent.	5·95 per cent.	45.53 per cent.	
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Year 1887 - - - - -	177,587 6 0	10,484 0 6	188,071 6 6	270,611 9 3	10,468 17 6	281,080 6 9	469,151 13 3
„ 1888 - - - - -	175,155 19 5	8,065 16 9	183,221 16 2	368,912 7 5	8,065 16 9	376,978 4 2	560,200 0 4
„ 1889 - - - - -	188,339 7 1	1,053 14 0	189,393 1 1	363,227 18 6	1,053 14 0	364,281 12 6	553,674 13 7
„ 1890 - - - - -	195,981 6 1	10,776 3 4	206,757 9 5	353,756 9 6	10,776 3 4	364,532 12 10	571,290 2 3
Total for the four years - -	737,063 18 7	30,379 14 7	767,443 13 2	1,356,508 4 8	30,364 11 7	1,386,872 16 3	2,154,316 9 5
Average for the four years - -	184,265 19 8	7,594 18 8	191,860 18 3	339,127 1 2	7,591 2 11	3 6,718 4 1	538,579 2 4
Proportion which for the four years each division bears to the Total Trade - - - - -	34·21 per cent.	1·41 per cent	35·62 per cent.	62·97 per cent.	1.41 per cent.	64·38 per cent.	

FIJI.

It will be seen from the foregoing Table that, for the four past years, imports formed 35·62 per cent. and exports 64·38 per cent. of the total trade.

The aggregate value of imports during the sixteen years since the foundation of the Colony has been 3,880,885*l.* 6*s.* 9*d.*; the value of exports during the same period being 3,989,177*l.* 2*s.* 4*d.*

During the sixteen years, the value of exports has exceeded that of imports by 108,291*l.* 15*s.* 7*d.*

The value of exports of the past four years, however, has exceeded that of imports by 619,429*l.* 3*s.* 1*d.* or at the rate of nearly 155,000*l.* per annum.

The division of the Trade of the Colony is shewn in the following statements:—

TOTAL TRADE OF THE COLONY WITH DIFFERENT COUNTRIES.

Return showing the Total Value of Imports into Fiji from the different Countries for the Year ending 31*st December* 1890.

Country.	Dutiable.	Free.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Austria - - -	1 0 0	—	1 0 0
Ellice Island - -	—	1,119 0 0	1,119 0 0
Futuna - - -	—	562 10 0	562 10 0
India - - -	2,547 5 2	2,511 10 6	5,058 15 8
Line Islands - -	2 12 0	1 0 0	3 12 0
New Britain - -	—	2,997 0 0	2,997 0 0
New Caledonia - -	198 7 11	2 0 0	200 7 11
New Hebrides - -	372 16 5	18 14 0	391 10 5
New South Wales -	94,584 13 10	35,030 6 0	129,614 19 10
New Zealand - -	20,870 7 9	21,679 19 7	42,550 7 4
Samoa - - -	53 16 11	2,856 19 4	2,910 16 3
South Australia - -	20 0 0	200 0 0	220 0 0
Tonga - - -	44 6 10	—	44 6 10
United States - -	1,041 11 6	—	1,041 11 6
Victoria - - -	8,109 9 2	8,619 2 6	16,728 11 8
Wallis Island - -	—	3,313 0 0	3,313 0 0
Totals - -	127,846 7 6	78,911 1 11	206,757 9 5

Return showing the Value of Exports to the several Countries for the Year ending 31*st December* 1890.

Country.	Value.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*
Ellice Island	5	8	8
France	27,087	18	10
Line Islands	9	12	0
New Hebrides	45	3	1
New South Wales	67,388	12	10
New Zealand	210,528	2	3
Portugal	4,684	13	4
Samoa	134	10	0
Spain	113	11	0
Tonga	129	7	0
Victoria	54,405	13	10
Total	364,532	12	10

The total trade of the Colony with the countries dealt with in 1890 was in the following proportions :—

Country.	Total Trade.	Percentage.
	£	
New South Wales	197,004	34·48
Victoria	71,124	12·45
South Australia	220	·04
New Zealand	253,078	44·30
		—
Total, Australian Colonies	521,436	—
India	5,059	·88
United Kingdom	—	—
Samoa	3,046	·53
Tonga	174	·03
Portugal	4,685	·82
France	27,088	4·74
Other Countries	9,802	1·71
Total	571,290	

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As there was no direct communication with the United Kingdom during the year the trade between the United Kingdom and the Colony passed through the Australian Colonies and New Zealand.

The following Returns will exhibit the division of the Trade of the Colony between British Possessions and Foreign Countries.

Total Value of Imports from British Possessions, Polynesian Islands, and other Countries.

—	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
From British Possessions -	174,547 3 8	174,244 8 0	186,418 18 5	194,172 14 6
From Polynesian Islands -	10,288 17 7	8,781 16 2	1,179 6 4	8,300 8 8
From other Countries -	3,235 5 3	195 12 0	1,794 16 4	4,284 6 3
Total - -	188,071 6 6	183,221 16 2	189,393 1 1	206,757 9 5

Value of Total Exports to British Possessions and to other Countries respectively.

—	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Exported to British Possessions - - - -	268,554 4 8	341,446 10 10	335,857 15 6	332,322 8 11
Exported to other countries	12,526 2 1	35,531 13 4	28,423 17 0	32,210 3 11
Total - -	281,080 6 9	376,978 4 2	364,281 12 6	364,532 12 10

The accounts of imports and exports are exclusive of specie and bullion.

The Trade with the Australasian Colonies during the past four years, has been as follows —

Trade with the Australasian Colonies.

Year.	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
1887 - - - -	153,544	263,545
1888 - - - -	172,423	341,437
1889 - - - -	185,976	335,858
1890 - - - -	189,114	332,322

The nature and value of the principal imports are shown in the following Table.

Nature of Import.	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.
	£	£	£	£
1. Bacon and hams - -	1,363	1,160	1,414	1,317
2. Bags and sugar mats - -	4,749	4,961	4,785	5,879
3. Beer - - - -	3,891	2,948	2,987	2,298
4. Boots and shoes - -	4,010	2,980	2,897	3,171
5. Breadstuffs and biscuits -	10,879	10,144	16,114	14,086
6. Butter - - -	2,281	1,453	1,271	1,712
7. Cordage - - -	980	1,532	1,705	1,509
8. Cigars - - -	582	664	727	830
9. Coals - - -	9,657	5,611	6,550	9,736
10. Doors and sashes - -	188	123	290	179
11. Drapery - - -	40,574	48,075	42,899	37,940
12. Drugs - - - -	2,088	1,863	1,978	2,294
13. Fish - - - -	1,758	1,613	1,999	1,755
14. Fruits, bottled and dried -	634	522	564	517
15. Galvanised iron and goods -	1,539	1,854	2,829	2,916
16. Glassware and crockery -	1,855	1,631	2,334	2,505
17. Hardware - - -	16,519	12,957	14,560	15,293
18. Iron, bar, rod - - -	499	404	357	679
19. Iron, rails and pipes - -	229	755	554	234
20. Jams and jellies - -	519	473	540	450
21. Jewellery - - -	971	883	1,186	1,326
22. Live stock - - -	3,591	4,000	4,001	4,109
23. Machinery - - -	9,613	8,112	4,048	7,121
24. Manure - - -	551	2,659	8,132	10,983
25. Meats - - -	6,733	8,282	7,948	9,169
26. Musical instruments - -	498	547	335	525
27. Oils - - - -	5,468	5,280	4,889	6,031
28. Pickles and oilstores - -	2,486	1,734	1,756	1,711
29. Paints - - - -	1,174	1,062	1,911	1,012
30. Produce - - -	5,877	5,868	2,903	4,333
31. Rice - - - -	7,951	8,298	11,451	10,193
32. Ship chandlery - -	1,849	2,039	2,931	2,526
33. Soap - - - -	1,715	1,767	1,585	1,557
34. Spirits - - -	3,260	2,854	2,817	2,758
35. Stationery - - -	2,427	2,148	2,490	2,338
36. Sugar - - - -	26	27	718	1,292
37. Tea - - - -	1,149	441	238	123
38. Timber - - -	3,032	2,839	5,426	4,094
39. Tobacco - - -	904	981	1,163	1,240
40. Vegetables and green fruits -	1,856	2,000	2,866	2,298
41. Wines - - - -	987	716	1,166	896
42. Woodenware and furniture -	2,257	2,964	2,746	4,792
43. Other imports - - -	18,902	15,998	9,332	8,802

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The principal increase of imports during the past year has been on bags and mats, coal, machinery and meats (all of which are duty-free articles) and on oils, produce, and hardware, woodenware and furniture, which are dutiable.

The principal decreases have occurred on beer, bread-stuffs, drapery, paints and rice.

The export trade of the Colony depends for its existence on three staple industries, viz.—sugar, copra (the dried kernel of the cocoanut), and fruit (bananas and pineapples).

Copra, cotton (Sea Island), and maize were the principal exports at the date of the annexation of the Colony, but the export of maize was soon displaced by that of sugar. Cotton continued to be the third export in point of value until about 1882, after which it gradually subsided until 1888, when only 3½ tons were exported. Since that date the cultivation of kidney cotton has revived, and now gives every indication of rapid expansion.

In the meantime the fruit trade with the neighbouring Australasian Colonies had arisen, after the establishment, through Government subsidy, of steam communication with Sydney; and has increased year by year until it now ranks as the export second only in importance to sugar.

The quantity and value of fruit exported during the past four years were as follows:—

Year.	Total value.	Fruits—Dried and Preserved.	Green Fruits.	
			Bananas.	Pine-apples and Bananas.
	£	Cases.	Bunches.	Cases.
1890 - - -	57,563	80	720,788	5,777
1889 - - -	42,605	100	531,008	4,499
1888 - - -	42,448	211	517,666	4,668
1887 - - -	31,047	546	359,294	6,105

The fruit consists almost entirely of bananas and pineapples, but there is a small export of oranges, limes, lemons, citrons, granadillas, &c. which might well be extended.

The following Table, which shews the quantity and value of the three staple exports above mentioned for each year since

Annexation, will illustrate the expansion of the Trade of the Colony:—

Year.	Sugar.		Fruit	Copra.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Tons.	£	£	Tons.	£
1875 - - -	96	3,417	97	3,871	40,058
1876 - - -	265	10,433	129	4,178	46,226
1877 - - -	482	16,170	507	6,348	79,865
1878 - - -	548	18,641	2,098	8,402	122,764
1879 - - -	785	26,687	3,150	4,146	61,967
1880 - - -	593	20,920	5,216	7,339	109,758
1881 - - -	684	23,254	5,470	7,532	87,084
1882 - - -	1,731	58,587	9,140	6,979	66,672
1883 - - -	5,163	175,555	15,428	6,281	81,772
1884 - - -	8,729	218,224	19,710	5,643	69,642
1885 - - -	10,586	211,729	23,991	5,235	64,390
1886 - - -	11,716	187,456	23,059	5,217	49,564
1887 - - -	12,831	205,294	31,026	1,957	12,356
1888 - - -	16,916	270,649	42,448	4,219	41,065
1889 - - -	13,178	263,553	42,605	5,663	41,543
1890 - - -	15,291	244,655	57,563	4,657	42,901

The other principal Colonial-grown exports in 1890 consisted of:—

		£
Beche de Mer, 63 tons 13 cwt. -	valued at	3,183
Desiccated cocoanut, 25½ tons -	„	1,428
Cotton kidney, 27 tons 7 cwt. -	„	1,277
Peanuts, 242 tons 16 cwt. - -	„	4,533
Tortoiseshell, 1 ton 4 cwt. - -	„	1,386
Colonial distilled spirits, 4,419 gallons	„	773
Wool, 7 tons 13 cwt. - -	„	717

Minor exports consist of Arrowroot, Bark, Fibre, Gum, Angora Hair, Hides (1,208), Maize, Mats, Molasses (2,600 Hogsheads), Pearl Shell, Plants and Seeds, Sandalwood, Tea, Tobacco, Turtles, and Yams.

XIV.—Navigation.

The number of vessels entering the Ports of the Colony from abroad, during the year, was 79, with a total registered tonnage of 56,711 tons. The number of vessels cleared for places beyond the Colony was 89, with a total tonnage of 60,644.

The total number of vessels entering and clearing was thus 168, and the total tonnage 117,355.

FIJI.

The number and tonnage of vessels entering from abroad at the two ports of entry in the Colony during the past four years, distinguishing between steam and sailing vessels were as follows :—

Year.	Steam Vessels.		Sailing Vessels.		Total No. of Vessels.	Total Tonnage.
	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.		
1887 - - -	66	33,231	53	13,671	119	46,902
1888 - - -	71	39,750	35	9,829	106	49,579
1889 - - -	62	40,892	27	10,328	89	51,220
1890 - - -	60	49,306	19	7,405	79	56,711

The nationality of those vessels is shown below :—

Year.	British.		American.		German.		Norwegian.		Tongan.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1887 - -	105	41,378	—	—	7	2,680	4	2,737	3	107
1888 - -	99	46,401	—	—	3	1,077	4	2,101	—	—
1889 - -	79	46,005	1	224	1	517	7	4,452	1	22
1890 - -	75	53,337	1	279	1	1,703	2	1,392	—	—

The total registered tonnage of vessels entering has increased during each of the past four years. There has, however, been a steady decrease in the number and tonnage of sailing vessels.

There are two ports of registry in the Colony—Suva and Levuka. At 31st December 1890 there were on the Levuka register 10 vessels, with an aggregate tonnage of 431 $\frac{42}{100}$ tons. There was no vessel on the Suva register.

The internal shipping of the Colony is conducted in small vessels of an average size of ten tons or under. The number of those vessels and their tonnage has increased year by year.

The following statement may be of interest :—

Statement of Sea-going Certificates issued by the Fiji Marine Board for the Four Years ending 31*st December* 1890.

Year.	European-owned Vessels.		Native-owned Vessels.		Total.	
	No	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1887 - - -	49	2,048	50	526	99	2,574
1888 - - -	74	1,433	148	1,073	222	2,506
1889 - - -	117	1,756	198	1,264	315	3,020
1890 - - -	137	2,221	246	1,687	383	3,908

The number and tonnage of both European and Native owned vessels have been very considerably increased during the year. No reference is made in the foregoing statement to native canoes or craft of that description.

The following return will give an indication of the number of persons qualified to take charge of coasting vessels within the Colony.

Return of Certificates, Short-coasting Licenses, and Sailing Licenses issued by the Fiji Marine Board, to enable persons to sail vessels within the group, at 31st December 1890.

Description of Certificate or License.	Issued to					Total.
	Europeans.	Half Castes.	Natives.	Indians.	Other Persons.	
Certificates of competency	10	1	—	—	—	11
„ „ service -	54	20	16	—	—	90
Short coasting licenses	16	3	20	4	1	44
Sailing licenses - -	—	46	233	1	3	283
Total - -	80	70	269	5	4	428

XV.—AGRICULTURE.

It is computed that there are 4,953,920 acres of land in the Colony.

The estimated acreage under cultivation by Europeans is 35,440½, under crop as follows:—

	Acres.
Arrowroot - - - -	30
Bananas and pineapples - -	2,407
Cotton - - - -	271
Coffee - - - - -	11¾
Cocoanuts - - -	18,513
Maize - - - - -	315
Sugar cane - - - -	12,952
Tobacco - - - - -	19½
Tapioca - - - - -	23½
Yams and other produce - - -	897¾
Total - - -	35,440½

The transactions in land are shewn in the following return prepared by the Registrar of Titles. Attention is directed to the foot-notes thereto, which give explanations with regard to the number of transfers and to the amount of the consideration in cases of Crown Grants issuing and in certain cases of transfer.

FIJI.

STATEMENT showing the NUMBER of DEEDS registered in the OFFICE to 31st December 1890, with certain

Year.	Total No. of Deeds registered.	(1) Crown Grants.			(2) Transfers.				Transmissions.
		No.	Acreage.	Consideration.	No.	Acreage.	Consideration.	Stamp Duty.	
			a. r. p.			a. r. p.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
1877	213	153	48,765 2 11·15	—	17	10,168 2 34·9	3,689 12 0	22 13 6	—
1878	270	98	39,476 1 17·95	400	51	19,218 1 21·45	24,370 5 9	136 9 0	9
1879	218	52	23,558 3 32·60	1,900	28	6,813 1 24·6	7,723 18 8	43 5 0	2
1880	446	52	27,562 1 03·10	3,714	64	28,400 3 11·53	24,063 4 9	164 2 6	3
1881	822	283	75,627 0 00·89	7,360	174	35,647 1 39·85	129,493 12 2	689 7 6	2
1882	776	247	65,745 2 09·50	6,783	111	44,390 0 32	102,890 4 11	540 15 6	2
1883	850	135	31,664 2 31·25	5,320	138	53,949 3 20·5	63,005 13 0	356 11 0	12
1884	776	97	38,325 1 20·4	391	105	28,015 1 03·4	49,609 8 5	265 0 0	12
1885	568	30	26,367 2 29·5	392	112	39,868 2 10·8	70,718 18 2	594 7 6	14
1886	429	41	14,042 1 5·6	95	83	39,368 1 19·85	65,138 10 8	349 0 0	11
1887	354	45	8,120 0 16·00	91	57	18,029 1 1·6	17,332 3 11	105 10 0	5
1888	425	16	6,300 1 8·6	—	85	42,138 0 5·35	33,633 8 11	161 4 6	13
1889	403	8	5,059 0 0	—	88	30,788 1 7·5	26,754 17 5	328 11 0	13
1890	419	6	2,824 3 15·00	—	97	18,103 3 38·65	48,240 3 7	256 17 0	14

* The Real Property Ordinance came into operation on this date.

(1) The greater number of grants were issued for a nominal consideration to Europeans due investigation as to title.

(2) A great number of these transfers were for lands under contract of sale prior to represent the present value of the land.

(3) Miscellaneous items include memoranda of endorsement from Commissioner of transfers of leases, of mortgages, &c.

of the REGISTRAR OF TITLES during the Period from 15th March 1877,* particulars concerning the same.

Certificates of Title.	Mortgages.		Released Mortgages.		Powers of Attorney.	Orders of Supreme Court.	Trusts.	Caveats.	Leases.	Surrenders of Leases.	(3) Miscellaneous.
	No.	Value.	No.	Value.							
		£ s. d.		£ s. d.							
16	7	13,972 10 0	—	—	5	—	4	8	3	—	6
47	26	30,502 0 0	—	—	8	3	2	9	15	—	2
28	25	19,205 15 3	—	—	8	3	5	13	23	—	31
63	46	32,475 15 8	31	13,464 16 0	12	4	6	16	12	6	131
164	52	61,237 3 8	27	21,925 8 0	18	4	5	21	22	5	45
115	68	136,967 15 0	49	57,963 13 11	18	11	2	55	49	—	49
159	69	76,806 2 11	49	20,163 4 6	32	17	4	61	58	5	111
115	65	57,991 13 0	41	24,793 4 9	22	16	2	76	92	19	114
114	36	30,398 18 8	43	44,305 4 6	12	11	1	54	39	13	89
91	18	10,900 10 0	42	33,728 9 0	7	6	3	35	24	7	61
59	19	43,923 13 11	27	9,302 19 4	7	4	1	33	35	14	53
133	14	21,685 16 6	23	21,819 19 4	17	6	—	22	32	5	59
107	23	118,775 0 1	34	79,066 2 8	9	3	2	15	40	9	52
135	18	22,775 0 0	24	19,014 12 1	9	3	3	13	46	5	52

and others, for lands acquired by them previous to annexation, and now confirmed after annexation and now registered, the consideration is in these cases small, and does not

Lands and notices to withdraw, and withdrawals and partial withdrawals of caveats; also

[Fiji.

The following figures represent the number of live stock in the Colony, as ascertained at the census of 5th April, 1891:—

Cattle - - - - -	8,549
Horses - - - - -	863
Asses - - - - -	7
Mules - - - - -	24
Sheep - - - - -	6,202
Goats - - - - -	4,687
Pigs (European-bred only) - -	1,857

XVI.—Prisons.

The following Statistics of the Central Prisons are given in respect of the year 1890, the figures of the previous year being added to permit of comparison.

Class.	Committed to prison during 1890.				Total for 1889.
	Men.	Women.	Juveniles	Total.	
Number of persons committed in 1890 for debt - - -	1	—	—	1	1
For safe custody till trial, or for want of security - -	82	4	—	86	88
For purposes of penal imprisonment - - - -	564	54	—	618	624
Total - - -	657	58	—	705	713

The daily average in prison during the past two years has been:—

	1890.	1889.
Men - - - -	191	171
Women - - - -	5	6
Juveniles - - - -	—	—
Total - -	196	177

Thirty prisoners were admitted to hospital during the year, in addition to those treated in the hospital wards of the prisons.

Five prisoners died in the course of the year, viz. one suicide, one by execution, and three from natural causes.

The cost of the prisons of the Colony during the past two years has been;—

	£	s.	d.
Year 1889 - - -	2,241	1	5
„ 1890 - - -	2,362	11	6

XVII.—CRIME.

It will be seen from the following table of offences, apprehensions, convictions, and acquittals for the past four years, that there has been a sensible diminution of crime during the latter half of that period.

Comparative table showing the number of offences, apprehensions, convictions, and acquittals for the last four years.

	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.
The number of offences reported to the police	—	—	—	—
The number of persons apprehended by the police, or summoned before the magistrates	8,044	6,443	4,377	3,612
The number of summary convictions:—				
1. For offences against the person -	501	266	242	253
2. For larceny - - - -	223	172	185	156
3. For offences against property other than larceny - - - -	73	115	233	155
4. For other offences - - -	54,24	4,316	2,405	2,400
The number of convictions in the superior courts:—				
1. For offences against the person -	18	30	16	19
2. For larceny - - - -	—	9	1	2
3. For offences against property - -	11	8	5	5
4. For other offences - - -	—	—	2	4
The number of persons acquitted:—				
1. In the inferior courts - - -	1,759	1,514	1,233	604
2. In the superior courts - - -	17	31	29	9

FIJI.

XVIII.—COLONIAL HOSPITAL.

The following Statistics are given with reference to Suva Hospital:—

Return of Patients under treatment in the Colonial Hospital during the year 1890.

Nationality of Patients.	In Hospital at 1st January 1890.	Admitted during the year.	Total No. Treated.	Deaths.
				Per cent.
Europeans - -	2	21	23	2 = 9·5
Fijians - -	25	233	258	2 = 0·9
Polynesians - -	5	94	99	21 = 22·3
Indians - -	12	166	178	9 = 5·4
Miscellaneous - -	—	6	6	—
Total - -	44	520	564	34=6·03

There were discharged:—

Cured - - - -	238
Relieved - - - -	195
Not improved - - -	31

The principal diseases treated were Anæmia (37 cases, mostly in Indians); Dysentery (42 cases); Ulcers (simple, 33 cases) (strumous, 93 cases) for the most part in Fijians (syphilitic, 12 cases in Indians and Polynesians); Lupus (cutaneous, 15 cases) (Naso-pharyngal, 14 cases) in Natives; Framboesia (23 cases, for the most part in Indians); Bronchitis (20 cases, 16 of which were in Indians).

XIX.—LUNATIC ASYLUM.

Eight patients were admitted during the year. The number discharged was:—

Cured - - - -	1
Relieved - - - -	5
Total	6

One patient died, of general paralysis and hypostatic pneumonia. Six patients remained in the Asylum at the close of the year.

XX.—METEOROLOGY.

The following returns are furnished by the Government meteorological observer:—

STATION.—SUVA, FIJI.

$\lambda = 178° 26' 0''$ E. $\varphi = 18° 8' 0''$ S. H. = 14.

Months.	Mean Pressure.	Air Temperature.						
		Mean. 9 0 AM.	Means of		Absolute Min. and Max.			
			Min.	Max.	Min.	Date.	Max.	Date.
January	29·921	82	74	87	72	25th, 27th	91	1st
February	29·727	81	75	85	71	4th	90	19th
March	29·947	80	74	86	72	12th, 14th, 16th	89	7th
April	29·940	81	73	87	70	7th	91	8th, 9th, 29th
May	30·004	80	72	83	68	26th	91	4th
June	30·069	76	69	81	64	24th, 25th, 26th	87	23rd
July	30·096	78	68	83	61	25th	89	19th
August	30·115	77	68	81	66	3rd, 4th, 9th	88	26th
September	30·064	77	71	81	68	4th	84	12th
October	30·012	79	72	82	66	14th	87	13th
November	29·987	79	73	83	69	23rd, 24th	90	29th
December	29·923	79	74	82	69	3rd	85	23rd, 24th, 31st
Year	29·984	79	72	83	64	—	91	—

STATION.—SUVA, FIJI.

ht = 4 ft. 0 in. *hr* = 24 ft. 0 in.

Months.	Amount of Cloud.	Rainfall.			Weather. No. of Days of							Wind. No. of Observations of								
	Mean. 9 0 AM.	Total.	Max.	Date.	Rain.	Snow.	Hail.	Thunder-storms.	Clear Sky.	Over-cast.	Gales.	N.	N.E.	E.	S.E.	S.	S.W.	W.	N.W.	Calm.
January -	5	21·92	5·83	24th	27	—	—	12	0	31	0	12	6	2	6	1	3	0	1	0
February -	2	6·99	1·51	1st	21	—	—	3	0	28	0	6	4	5	4	1	4	0	4	0
March - -	2	20·97	2·74	29th	29	—	—	7	2	29	0	8	14	6	3	0	0	0	0	0
April - -	4	4·15	1·03	23rd	25	—	—	4	5	26	0	6	6	9	2	3	4	0	0	0
May - -	6	10·41	2·36	12th	22	—	—	0	3	28	0	4	4	3	12	1	2	0	5	0
June - -	5	8·10	4·46	6th	17	—	—	0	4	26	0	3	0	12	9	3	0	1	2	0
July - -	2	0·29	0·23	20th	5	—	—	0	11	20	0	2	9	10	7	3	0	0	0	0
August - -	5	7·34	2·74	31st	14	—	—	1	0	31	0	5	1	13	10	1	1	0	0	0
September -	6	10·34	2·95	27th	25	—	—	4	0	30	0	6	3	7	13	1	0	0	0	0
October -	6	6·75	1·43	21st	21	—	—	3	0	31	0	2	3	12	9	0	1	2	2	0
November -	6	5·88	1·52	5th	24	—	—	0	1	29	0	2	5	11	8	0	1	0	3	0
December -	7	16·06	3·00	13th	27	—	—	0	0	30	1	1	6	11	10	1	2	0	0	0
Year -	4	119·20	5·83	24/1/90	257	—	—	34	263	339	1	57	61	101	93	15	18	3	17	0

XXI.—POSTAL.

The following statistics relating to the exchange of correspondence are furnished by the Colonial Postmaster :—

	1890.	1889.	1888.	1887.
Foreign Correspondence.				
Foreign letters received	43,113	41,854	43,044	42,410
„ „ despatched	39,164	39,047	37,498	27,302
Foreign newspapers received	72,808	65,628	68,336	77,558
„ „ despatched	11,394	12,912	16,856	14,222
Foreign books received	10,083	9,671	12,804	12,444
„ „ despatched	1,816	2,082	1,192	721
Foreign parcels received	125	—	—	—
„ „ despatched	nil	—	—	—
Local Correspondence.				
Interinsular letters received	34,902	34,223	37,863	22,869
„ „ despatched	42,517	43,695	43,589	46,778
Interinsular papers received	1,989	2,329	2,935	1,242
„ „ despatched	47,710	46,585	47,364	51,935
Interinsular books received	1,055	1,287	843	507
„ „ despatched	4,668	4,587	5,423	4,960

The origin and destination of foreign correspondence received and despatched during the year 1890 is given hereunder :—

	Letters.	Papers.	Book packets.	Parcels.
Received.				
From United Kingdom	5,308	31,767	4,145	125
„ Australian Colonies and New Zealand.	36,257	39,198	5,212	—
„ Other Colonies	753	1,443	706	—
„ Elsewhere	800	400	20	—
Total received	43,118	72,808	10,083	125
Despatched.				
To the United Kingdom	5,269	2,441	525	—
„ Australian Colonies and New Zealand.	31,202	7,690	1,071	—
„ Other Colonies	2,093	1,100	200	—
„ Elsewhere	600	163	20	—
Total despatched	39,164	11,394	1,816	—

The parcel post between the United Kingdom and the Colony came into operation on 1st June 1890, and 125 parcels were received during the year. The rate of postage on parcels is for

FIJI. the present fixed at two shillings for the first two pounds, and one shilling for every additional pound.

Correspondence from Europe is received by two routes, viz. :— (1) viâ San Francisco and Auckland (in 43 days); and (2) viâ Brindisi and Sydney or Melbourne (in 50 days).

XXII.—General Observations.

The general condition of business affairs in the Colony at the close of the year was firmer and more substantial than at any time within the past ten years, and probably better, on the whole, than at any previous period in the history of the Colony. There is no indication that the general prosperity of the Colony is about to advance at any rapid rate; but it is felt that the period of depression has been weathered, and that, while many hopes have been painfully dispelled, the experience gained in other directions has improved the position of those enterprises which have been found to be stable.

There is, however, one cloud in the distance in the shape of the Banana disease, for which, up to the present, no reliable remedy has been found. The utmost vigilance is required in order to prevent its introduction on plantations; and its extinction when it once appears is a matter of the greatest difficulty, if not of impossibility. Unless some means of checking it be discovered, it is certain that in the near future the fruit trade (which if only the second industry of the Colony in point of value, is, nevertheless, the first so far as the local interests are concerned) will sustain a severe check. Some varieties of Bananas are less readily attacked by the disease than are others; and some fresh varieties are about to be introduced, in the hope that they may be found less susceptible of the disease than is the locally cultivated "China banana."

There are prospects that within a short time a large sugar mill will be at work on the Island of Vanua-levu; and it is also in contemplation to reduplicate the machinery of the second largest mill in the Colony.

There are still large tracts of land in the Nadi and Sigatoka districts of the Colony well adapted for the growth of sugar-cane on a large scale.

Experiments are being made in the cultivation of rice; and there is no climatic or other reason why rice should not be a successful and a profitable crop. The import of rice for local consumption has been of the annual value of 10,000*l.* for some years past, and as the cost of freight from India, or from any other place where it is grown, amounts to about 3*l.* per ton, the local cultivator should, even in the experimental stage of the industry, be able to compete favourably with the imported article. It is also to be hoped that the Natives might, if facilities for hulling the rice were at hand, be induced to cultivate and to use it. Its use would improve their stamina, a circumstance that cannot be looked for so long as their food consists mainly of tubers.

The cultivation of a superior class of tobacco, specially adapted for use as cigar-wrappers, is being entered on by a local joint-stock company.

The fibre of the *Furcræa gigantea* is also attracting attention. This Agave, which is plentifully dispersed throughout the Colony, yields a valuable fibre and may be cultivated with success on hill and waste lands. The price of the fibre in the London market ranges from 21*l.* to 28*l.* per ton.

Steps are also being taken to introduce the Sisal hemp industry.

The planting of Ramie or Rhea grass, from which a valuable fibre may be obtained, has also been commenced by at least one planter.

The cultivation of vanilla has been progressing for some time past, and the success that has attended the efforts of the cultivators leads to the expectation that this article will shortly appear on the list of exports.

J. STEWART,
Assistant Colonial Secretary.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 28.

GAMBIA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1890.

(In continuation of Colonial Report No. 99, Old Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

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1892.

[C.—6563.–12.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

No.	Colony.	Year.
101	St. Kitts-Nevis	1886
102	Basutoland (Governor's visit)	1890
103	British New Guinea	1888–9
104	Natal	1889
105	Malta	,,
106	British Guiana	,,
107	Barbados	,,
108	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
109	Western Australia	,,
110	Gold Coast (Agriculture)	1890
111	Labuan	1889
112	Jamaica	,,
113	Falkland Islands	,,
114	Basutoland	1889–90
115	Sierra Leone	1889
116	Fiji	,,
117	Hong Kong	,,
118	St. Helena	,,

NEW SERIES OF COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

1	British Honduras	1889
2	Mauritius	,,
3	British Bechuanaland	1889–90
4	Victoria	1889
5	Newfoundland	,,
6	British New Guinea	1889–90
7	St. Vincent	1890
8	Bermuda	,,
9	Leeward Islands	1889–90
10	St. Lucia	1890
11	Bahamas	,,
12	Turk's and Caicos Islands	,,
13	Gibraltar	,,
14	Zululand	,,
15	Sierra Leone	,,
16	Barbados	,,
17	Falkland Islands	,,
18	Labuan	,,
19	British Honduras	,,
20	Basutoland	1889–90
21	Trinidad and Tobago	1890
22	Leeward Islands	,,
23	Grenada	,,
24	Straits Settlements	,,
25	British Guiana	,,
26	St. Helena	,,
27	Mauritius	,,

No. 28.

GAMBIA.

[In continuation of Colonial Report No. 98, Old Series.]

Administrator LLEWELYN to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, Bathurst,
September 25, 1891.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward, in duplicate, the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1890, together with my report thereon.

2. I regret the late date at which this is forwarded to your Lordship, but on my arrival here, at the end of April, the preparation of the returns had not been commenced.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. B. LLEWELYN,
Administrator.

The Right Hon.
The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

BLUE BOOK REPORT, 1890.

Taxes.

There has been no alteration in the tariff during the year, but the additional duty of a farthing a lb. on kola nuts, first imposed in 1888 for one year, and continued then for another year, was made permanent by Ordinance No. 5 of 1890.

A dog license of 5*s.* was imposed for the first time by Ordinance No. 4 of 1890.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The total revenue for the year amounted to 30,573*l.* 3*s.* 6*d.*, and the expenditure to 22,758*l.* 14*s.* 3*d.*, showing an excess of the former over expenditure of nearly 8,000*l.*

This gratifying result is due to the continuation of the improved trade in ground nuts, the export of which was about the same as in 1889, but double that of 1888.

The expenditure amounted to 22,758*l.* 14*s.* 3*d.*, about 1,200*l.* more than in the previous year, but it includes the cost (1,600*l.*)

o 68940. Wt. 19750.

of a steam launch, so that the ordinary expenditure was not more than in 1889, whilst the revenue shows an increase of 4,000*l.*

The Colony is free from any public debt, and, what is still more gratifying, had on the 31st December the sum of 13,891*l.* 12*s.* 1*d.* invested in various Government securities in England, bearing interest.

Public Works.

No public works of an exceptional or new character were undertaken, and the expenditure was confined to general repairs to buildings and roads throughout the Colony.

Legislation.

Six Ordinances were passed during the year, of which two were the Annual Appropriation and Supplementary Appropriation Ordinances.

One imposed a license on dogs; another made permanent the additional import duty of ¼*d.* per lb. on kola nuts.

The only Ordinances not dealing with fiscal arrangements were the "Ticket of Leave" Ordinance, and the "Intestates Estates" Ordinance.

Executive and Legislative Councils.

The only change in the Councils was the appointment of the Honourable James Topp to be an unofficial member of the Executive Council.

Civil Establishment.

In the Civil Service, the following were the principal changes:—

Dr. A. Woodburn Heron was appointed Colonial Surgeon, vice Dr. Spilsbury, deceased, and Dr. Morgan Ignatius Finucane succeeded as Assistant Colonial Surgeon Dr. P. J. Rendall who resigned his appointment in August.

Mr. C. H. Hingeston, who was appointed Colonial Engineer at the end of June, died on the 1st of October, and was succeeded in December by Mr. James Collie.

Colonel J. F. Tighe was appointed Superintendent of Police in May but retired in October.

Pensions.

An addition of 15*l.* 19*s.* 4*d.* was made to the list by the grant of that amount from Gambia Funds to Edwin Adolphus, formerly Chief Magistrate in the Colony.

The total amount of pensions payable annually is now 1,380*l.* 4*s.* 11*d.*

Population.

The Registrar makes the following report on the births, deaths, and marriages for the year:—

Births.

"The births registered during the year under review amounted to 348, showing a decrease on the births of 1889 of 21. The birth rate per 1,000 of the population, computing on the basis of the figures of the last decennial census, was 24·59.

"Of the births 169 were males, and 179 were females.

"Of the 348 births, 340 were blacks and 8 hybrids.

Deaths.

"The deaths in 1890 numbered 719 inclusive of still-births, which is equivalent to 50·81 per 1,000 of the population, or nearly twice as many as in 1889.

"This abnormal increase on the death-rate was owing to an outbreak of influenza epidemic which raged in the Colony and in the adjacent territories in the earlier months of the year. The following tabular statements show the births and deaths in the Colony from the year 1885 to 1890 inclusive:—

Comparative Summary of Births from 1885 *to* 1890.

Year.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Total.
1885 -	20	10	15	7	16	16	16	32	24	28	32	16	232
1886 -	22	19	18	14	15	18	20	15	19	23	23	14	220
1887 -	18	9	15	25	20	18	20	31	27	41	41	20	293
1888 -	19	30	18	25	26	26	32	42	42	46	32	42	380
1889 -	36	36	27	26	27	32	27	20	38	33	35	32	369
1890 -	30	24	26	18	35	33	29	33	35	33	19	25	345

Comparative Summary of Deaths from 1885 *to* 1890.

Year.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Total.
1885 -	30	23	33	35	30	39	41	41	64	68	53	55	512
1886 -	67	41	32	22	33	42	35	51	56	71	54	62	566
1887 -	46	38	41	50	60	92	91	104	101	95	84	69	871
1888 -	46	70	39	22	40	33	55	60	66	66	42	43	584
1889 -	52	51	42	41	32	36	40	43	66	42	44	43	532
1890 -	68	60	114	53	58	43	34	56	67	48	54	56	719

GAMBIA.

"As the writer has often pointed out, the numbers given in the returns of births cannot be relied upon for the purpose of statistical information, many births within the area of registration not being recorded for the reasons suggested in his last report.

"The number of deaths during the year was, as already stated, 719, as against 532 in the preceding year. The number includes four Europeans and eight hybrids. The causes of European deaths were acute pneumonia, sunstroke, remittent fever, and disease of the respiratory organs.

"Of the deaths 391 were males, and 328 were females.

"Infant mortality is an extremely regrettable feature in the death roll, 194 infants, including children up to five years, having died during the year, equivalent to 26·98 per cent. of the total deaths.

"The number of deaths medically certified was 35, of which 20 were by the Colonial Hospital Returns and 15 by the coroner's inquisitions.

"The following were the registered causes of death :—

Abscess, 1; asthma, 1; beri-beri or sleeping sickness, 1; boils, 2; bowel complaints, 31; bronchitis, 10; cerebral disease, 1; chest affections, 96; childbirth, 10; consumption, 3; convulsions, 15; cystitis, 1; debility, 6; diarrhœa, 7; dropsy, 58; drowning, 4; dysentery 4 epilepsy, 1; execution, 2; fevers, 102; gout, 1; heart disease, 5, insanity, 3; kidney disease, 1; leprosy, 4; liver complaints, 2, nephritis, 2; paralysis, 1; pericarditis, 1; phthisis, 1; pleurisy and pleuro-pneumonia, 11; rheumatism, 1; rupture, 2; scrofula, 5; senile decay, 11; sore throat, 1; sunstroke, 1; still-births, 35; teething, 2; traumatic tetanus, 5; ulcers, 14; venereal diseases, 3; wounds, 2; causes not defined, 249.

"The occupations and status of the people who died during the year under report were as follows :—alien African children, 3; Arabic teachers, 6; blacksmiths, 2; butcher, 1; carpenters, 3; canoemen, 2; civil officers, 2; convict prisoners, 6; cooks, 5; cowmen, 3; domestic servants, 3; farmers, 269; ferryman, 1; fishermen, 6; gardener, 1; goldsmith, 1; grooms, 2; infants, 194; labourers, 31; laundresses, 7; masons, 2; paupers, 6; pedlar, 1; pensioner, 1; police constables, 6; sailors, 18; seamstresses, 4; shipwrights, 4; shoemaker, 1; tailor, 1; traders, 37; weavers, 3; writing clerks, 3; unspecified or of no occupation, 49.

Marriages.

"The number of marriages solemnised in 1890 amounted to 18, an increase of 2 on the figures of 1889. Ten of the marriages were solemnised in the Church of England, six in the Roman Catholic Church, and two by ministers of the Wesleyan Methodist Society."

Aliens.

The number of aliens on the register on the 31st day of December 1890 was 378.

There were five aliens registered, viz.:—two Jolahs, one Mandingo, one Joloff, and one Bambara.

Three aliens died during the year, 15 were discharged on attaining the age limit prescribed by the Alien Registration Ordinance, and 32 were temporarily removed from the Colony, of whom 18 have returned.

Education.

The Inspector of Schools in his report for the year winds up as follows:—"As the sum of my review I can only say that if "numerically there is decrease, efficiency has gained in every "way."

	£	s.	d.
The Roman Catholic schools with European masters and mistresses still hold their position as head of the denominations and earned - -	135	14	0
The Anglicans - - -	78	7	0
The Wesleyans - - -	60	14	6

an increase in each case on the previous year, but not so marked in the Wesleyans as in the others.

Imports and Exports.

I submit a comparative table for the years 1889 and 1890, showing the difference in each year between the principal articles of import and export:—

Imports.

Articles.	1890.	1889.	Increase.	Decrease.
Cotton goods - - -	37,225*l.*	35,857*l.*	1,368*l.*	—
Tobacco - - -	215,039 lbs.	296,978 lbs.	—	81,939 lbs.
Kola nuts - - -	,319 lbs.	682,432 lbs.	—	81,113 lbs.
Spirits of all kinds - -	43,323 galls.	40,108 galls.	3,215 galls.	—
Wines - - - -	16,317 galls.	16,912 galls.	—	595 galls.
Sugar - - - -	121,677 lbs.	122,390 lbs.	—	713 lbs.
Salt - - - -	936 tons	691 tons	245 tons.	—
Fire-arms - - -	3,849	1,735	2,114	—
Gunpowder - - -	858 brls.	508 brls.	350 brls.	—
Rice - - - -	823 tons.	906 tons	—	83 tons

Exports.

Articles.	1890.	1889.	Increase.	Decrease.
Ground nuts	18,262 tons Value, 129,817*l.*	19,636 tons Value, 140,086*l.*	—	1,374 tons. Value 10,269
Hides	1,093*l.*	2,075*l.*	—	982*l.*
Rubber	154,737 lbs. Value, 10,144*l.*	55,548 lbs. Value, 3,470*l.*	99,189*l.* Value 6,674	—
Palm kernels	3,131 tons	243 tons	2,888 tons	—
Wax	1,744*l.*	2,292*l.*	—	548*l.*

Shipping.

The number of sailing vessels entered was 63 compared with 50 in the previous year, but the total tonnage was a trifle less.

The total number of steamers that arrived was 107, (74 British and 33 foreign) compared with 102, and the tonnage, amounted to 105,700 tons, or about 12,000 tons more than in the previous year.

Prisons.

The following table shows a comparison of the number of committals in the years 1889 and 1890:—

Year.	Total Number of Prisoners committed.	For Debt.	For safe Custody or want of Bail.	Penal Punishment.	Daily Average in Prison.	Number of Admissions to Hospital.	Daily Average on Sick List.	Number of Deaths.
1889	94	1	18	75	50	22	2	3
1890	59	2	13	44	31	20	2	6

These figures show a marked decrease in the number of committals, and in the daily average number in prison, but the number of deaths was six as against three in the previous year. I believe no special cause can be assigned for this, and the verdict in each case was "natural causes." The number of escapes increased from one to three, and only two of these were recaptured.

Criminal Statistics.

The comparative returns submitted show an apparent marked decrease in the crime of the Colony, but I am afraid I must agree with the Chief Magistrate, who in his report on the statistics writes as follows:—

"I regret my inability to express as my opinion that the statistics are an infallible touchstone of the increase or diminution of crime in the Colony, for there can be no doubt that the practice of compounding offences and of stifling prosecutions prevails in this Colony. There is also no such institution here as a public

prosecutor, nor can it be said that the police force is very effective. Taking as an example, such a simple offence as that of committing nuisance, there were only 10 cases reported in Bathurst during the year 1890, but no one who knows anything of the place and of the influx of Jolahs and other savages into it, can believe that that number correctly represents the number of nuisances actually committed in the course of that year. From the evidence of my own senses I would be more inclined to believe that it would have more correctly represented the number of nuisances committed in a week."

Year.	Total Number of Offences committed.	Offences against the Person.	Larceny.	Offences to Property other than Prædial Larceny.	Other Offences.
1889 - - -	256	82	48	16	110
1890 - - -	201	49	36	9	107

Apprehensions and Summonses, and Disposition of foregoing Cases.

Year.	Number discharged for want of Prosecution or Evidence.	Number of Cases dismissed on Merits.	Number of Persons summarily convicted.	Number of Persons committed for Trial in the Superior Courts.
1889 - -	52	33	127	44
1890 - -	50	38	95	18

Year.	Assaults and other Offences against the Person.	Malicious Injuries to Property.	Larceny.	Other Offences to Property.	Offences relating to Social Economy of Gambia.	Offences against Master and Servants Act.	Other Offences.	Total.
1889	32	—	21	5	—	6	63	127
1890	15	—	15	—	—	4	61	95

Punishments in connexion with foregoing.

Year.	Fine.	Imprisonment in lieu of Fine or Surety.	Peremptory Imprisonment.	Whipping.	Bound over with or without Sureties or other minor Punishments.	Total.
1889 - - -	84	15	28	—	—	127
1890 - - -	74	1	20	—	—	95

Hospitals.

Five patients remained in the hospital at the end of 1889, and 172, against 176 in the previous year, were admitted for treatment. The out-patients increased from 4,973 in 1889 to 5,374, which, I hope, tends to show that the people are gradually getting to appreciate the efforts made by the Government to alleviate their sufferings. 23 deaths occurred in the hospital, including one European, but there was no epidemic, and no deaths from fever, the principal cause being 9 from respiratory diseases.

Meteorology.

The rainfall for the year amounted to 60·31 inches, nearly doub the quantity of the years 1888 and 1889, which were both very dry years. Out of the total fall, 53 inches fell in July, August, and September, which with October, when the water begins to dry up, are four very trying months to pass in the Gambia.

Savings Bank.

The business of the savings bank I am glad to report continues to increase steadily.

On the 31st December 1889, the amount of deposits was 616*l.* 19*s.* 2*d.*, increased at the end of 1890 to 879*l.* 13*s.* 1*d.*, owned by 84 depositors.

There are 26 friendly societies in the Colony with amounts invested ranging from 83*l.* 7*s.* 1*d.* to 2*l.* 6*s.*, and I believe they all do some good.

General Remarks.

From all I can learn, for I was not in the Colony during any part of the year, the year was a fairly prosperous one, and no incident of particular note occurred except the arrival in December of the officers of the Anglo-French Boundary Commission, who most successfully brought their work to a close in the month of June last.

(Signed) R. B. LLEWELYN.

Gambia,
17th September 1891.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

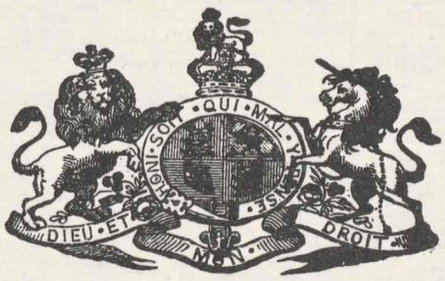
No. 41.

GAMBIA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1891.

(For Report for 1890, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 28.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
June 1892.



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1892.

[C.—6563.-25.]

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ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
5	Newfoundland	1889
6	British New Guinea	1889-90
7	St. Vincent	1890
8	Bermuda	,,
9	Leeward Islands	1889
10	St. Lucia	1890
11	Bahamas	,,
12	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
13	Gibraltar	,,
14	Zululand	,,
15	Sierra Leone	,,
16	Barbados	,,
17	Falkland Islands	,,
18	Labuan	,,
19	British Honduras	,,
20	Basutoland	1890–91
21	Trinidad and Tobago	1890
22	Leeward Islands	,,
23	Grenada	,,
24	Straits Settlements	,,
25	British Guiana	,,
26	St. Helena	,,
27	Mauritius	,,
28	Gambia	,,
29	Hong Kong	,,
30	Ceylon	1889
31	Lagos	,,
32	Lagos	1890
33	Ceylon	,,
34	Newfoundland	,,
35	Jamaica	1889–91
36	Victoria	1890
37	British New Guinea	1890–91
38	St. Vincent	1891
39	Bermuda	,,
40	Seychelles and Rodrigues	1889 and 1890

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.

No. 41.

GAMBIA.

[For Report for 1890, *see* Colonial Report, [Annual], No. 28.]

Administrator LLEWELLYN to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, Bathurst,
March 31, 1892.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward the Blue Book of the Colony for the year 1891, together with a short report on the several heads in the Book.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. B. LLEWELLYN,
Administrator.

The Right Hon.
The Secretary of State for the Colonies,

BLUE BOOK REPORT, 1891.

Taxes, &c.

No change was made during the year in any of the sources of revenue of the Colony.

Revenue and Expenditure.

It is gratifying to be able to record that the revenue, 31,038*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.*, was larger than in any previous year in the history of the Colony and there is every reason to hope that it will continue to increase year by year.

The expenditure amounted to 27,697*l.* 3*s.* 5*d.* There is no public debt and the surplus of assets on the 31st of December amounted to 18,102*l.* 5*s.* 8*d.*, the greater part of which is deposited at interest in England.

The expenditure was heavier by nearly 5,000*l.* than in the previous year but the cost of the Anglo-French Boundary

GAMBIA.

Commission and the purchase of a house for the office of the Governor amount to 2,835*l.*

Legislation.

Twelve Ordinances were passed during the year, comprising the following:—

To prevent the keeping of swine in the town of Bathurst.

To amend the constitution of the Board of Health, and provide for the appointment of an Inspector of nuisances.

To abolish the visiting Justices of the prison and appoint an Inspector of prisons.

The other nine Ordinances included the Census, Annual Approbation Ordinance, and amendments in other Ordinances of small importance.

An Ordinance was passed on the 20th July to regulate the importation and disposal of arms, ammunition, &c., but owing to some unexpected delay in the ratification of the Brussels Conference Act, 1889–90, the Ordinance has not been assented to and will be re-enacted and amended when this matter is finally settled

Civil Establishment.

Mr. Gilbert T. Carter, C.M.G., Administrator, was promoted to be Governor of Lagos, and left the Gambia on the 2nd of March. Mr. R. B. Llewellyn. C.M.G., was appointed to succeed Mr. Carter, and assumed his duties on the 19th April.

Mr. Mitford, the Treasurer, was appointed Treasurer at Sierra Leone and left the Gambia on the 9th February.

Mr. Mosely, formerly Civil Commandant at Sherbro, was appointed Treasurer and arrived in the Colony on the 16th of March.

Captain T. M. Hawtayne, of the North Staffordshire Regiment, was appointed Superintendent of Police and Sheriff and arrived in the Colony on the 4th of April.

Mr. Smith, Manager of McCarthy's Island, retired on account of ill-health in January and was succeeded in July by Mr. R. H. Sycett, who for some years had been confidential clerk in the Administrator's Office.

Pensions.

The pensioners of the previous year still remained on the list with the following additions: Serjeant-Major Paul, 33*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*; W. J. Davis, Senior Landing Waiter, 34*l.* 1*s.* 7*d.* The total amount of pensions payable on the 31st of December was 1,447*l.* 13*s.* 1*d.*

A gratuity of 50*l.* was voted by the Council to the widow of Mr. Smith, Manager of McCarthy's Island, who died in May, almost immediately after he had retired on account of ill-health.

Military Expenditure.

A detachment of the West India Regiment arrived in the Colony on the 14th of July, so there has been a slight expenditure under this heading for the allowance given to the officers and men as customary elsewhere in lieu of any exemption from customs duties.

Public Works.

No important new work was undertaken.

A house in the same block where Government House is was purchased for 500*l.* and has been fitted up as an office for the Administrator, a council chamber, and the printing office and stationery store.

These offices were formerly in one of the wings of Government House and since their removal the former office of the Clerks has been fitted up as a billiard room with a bedroom above, and in the basement the orderly of the Governor has a room.

The public buildings, generally speaking, are not in good repair, and will require continual work on them for a few years to get them into thorough order.

Population and Vital Statistics.

A census was taken on the 5th April, and the following is briefly the result.

Europeans, British	-	16
„ French	-	24
„ German	-	2
„ Portuguese	-	8
„ Swiss	-	6
„ Italian	-	6

Of the British, 10 were females, including six or severn sisters, at the Convent.

The six Italians represented the travelling hawkers of strings of coral, and the eight Portuguese were sailors on board a vessel in port on the day the Census was taken. I do not believe that the actual permanent European residents number more than 45, and as about half of these are absent in Europe every year during the rainy season, the death-rate of 4 out of about 25, is practically equivalent to about 15 per cent. of the white population, whilst about 4½ per cent. of the natives die.

The Census returns are not a correct index of the population which apparently only amounts to 14,266, and, it is needless to add, that except in Bathurst, and perhaps British Combo, the difficulties of obtaining any correct statistics are stupendous.

GAMBIA.

I attach herewith the report of the Registrar on the Births, Deaths, and Marriages for the year.

Births.

The number of births registered during the period under review was 423, as against 348 in 1890. The rate of births to population, computing on the basis of the Census Statistics taken in April last, is 29·65 per 1,000. Sexually divided there were 226 males and 197 females. Of these 285 were registered at Bathurst, 28 at British Combo, 69 at Albreda and the Ceded Mile Districts, and 41 at Macarthy's Island.

Legitimate births numbered 26, or 6·15 per cent. of the registered births. It is fair to observe that many children, returned as irregularly born, were the issues of the Mahommedan or native marriages not legally recognised.

Deaths.

The registered deaths numbered 657 including still births, showing a decrease on the deaths of 1890 of 62. The deaths were distributed as under:—

Bathurst - - - - -	345
British Combo - - -	77
Ceded Mile - - - - -	197
Macarthy's Island - - -	38
Total - -	657

The rate of deaths to population is 46·05 per 1,000.

Four Europeans died during the year, from the following causes;—bilious hæmaturic fever, 1; uræmia, 1; meningitis and remittent fever, 1; phthisis pulmonaris 1; 186 infants, inclusive of children up to five years of age, died during the same period, equivalent to 28·3 per cent. of the total deaths.

It would seem now to be an indisputable fact, in view of the recent Census returns, that the population of the Colony, if not declining, has remained stationary since the past decade.

An epidemic of measles, of a rather severe type, prevailed in the latter half of the year, and several deaths were noted.

It is to be regretted that infant mortality formed so large an item in the death roll. Many of the ailments, under which a large number of children succumbed, were, if not preventible, readily amenable to medical treatment. I am of opinion that this abnormal rate of mortality, may be attributed to the criminal negligence of ignorant and superstitious parents, who would resort to quacks or to charms, and such like agencies, to pro-

pitiate malevolent influences rather than obtain proper medical relief for their sick children.

Parents of this class would apply for medical assistance only when the innocent patients are in a moribund condition.

Only 60 deaths were medically certified, 47 by the Colonial Surgeon's returns, and 13 by the coroner's inquisition.

The following causes of deaths, were registered:—accident, 1; alcoholism, 1; apoplexy, 1; asthenia, 2; asthma, 7; bilious and hæmaturic fever, 1; bowel complaints, 49; bronchitis, 8; burns, 2; cancer, 1; cardiac diseases, 5; cerebral diseases, 2; chest affections, 75; child-births, 8; consumption, 5; convulsions, 45; debility, 3; diarrhœa, 8; dropsy, 65; drowning, 3; dysentery, 2; elephantiasis, 1; epileptic fits, 3; exhaustion, 2; fevers, malarial and remittent, 76; gun-shot wound, 1; liver complaint, 1; marasmus, 1; measles, 12; meningitis, 2; murder, 1; paralysis, 2; phthisis pulmonalis, 1; piles, 1; puerperal convulsions, 1; pyæmie, 4; renal disease, 1; rheumatism, 3; scrofula, 4; senile decay, 20; still-births, 33; syncope, 9; stricture syphilis, 1; teething, 1; tetanus, 3; ulcers, 7; uræmia, 1; venereal disease, 1; undefined causes, 160.

Marriages.

There were 25 marriages solemnised in the Colony during the period under review, as against 18 in the preceding year. 10 were solemnised in the Anglican Church, 6 in the Roman Catholic Church, and 9 by ministers of the Wesleyan Methodist Society. 8 marriages were by license.

Aliens.

There were 263 aliens on the register on the 31st of December.

I inspected all the alien children in Bathurst on the 15th July, and, generally speaking, they appeared to be well cared for.

In some few cases I questioned the manner in which the guardians were performing their duties, and four prosecutions took place, resulting in heavy fines being inflicted.

The treatment of these aliens requires careful watching, and I have instructed the registrar to hold a quarterly inspection of all of them, and I shall be present at one of these inspections in each year.

The system is open to abuse, but, as far as I can see, it is one that has many advantages in civilising and educating numbers who would otherwise be entirely neglected by their parents in remote districts, and if a strict supervision is kept by the registrar

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to see that the guardians carry out their obligations I do not believe it would be advisable to abolish it entirely.

Education.

I am afraid that education in the Gambia is not advancing as rapidly as could be desired.

The Mahommedans up to the present time seems to fear that education means interference with their religion, and especially to object to their girls attending any school. Efforts are still being made to induce them to be more considerate in this matter, but it is a very difficult matter.

According to the report of the Inspector, the number of schools has been sadly reduced during the last decade.

I attach a comparative table showing the number of scholars on the books, and the amounts earned by each denomination during the last five years, and end this not very hopeful subject by quoting the last paragraph of the Inspector's report, dated the 19th of August 1891.

"I have now the honour to bring this short report to a close. I must say that, according to my view of the situation, there has not been too much done for over 60 years Missionary School work in this Colony. I can only express a hope that any future improvement may be in the direction of the useful and not the theoretical."

Year.	Number of Children on Books.			Amounts earned.		
	Roman Catholics.	Anglicans.	Wesleyans.	Roman Catholics.	Anglicans.	Wesleyans.
				£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1887 - - -	Boys, 200 Girls, 162	—	484	168 12 5½	—	73 8 6
1888 - - - -	Boys, 200 Girls, 162	235	528	111 6 4	23 15 0	50 17 7½
1889 - - - -	Boys, 200 Girls, 162	237	463	111 6 4	48 14 0	64 8 6
1890 - - -	Boys, 127 Girls, 142	240	415	135 14 0	78 7 0	60 14 6
1891 - - - -	Boys, 127 Girls, 142	274	433	151 4 6	76 17 6	48 5 0

Imports and Exports.

The following comparative tables are interesting, and show that the amount of import duty collected in 1891 was within 150*l.* of the sum collected in 1890, but that in 1891 the duty realised from spirits, gunpowder, and tobacco, was respectively about 25 per-cent., 10 per-cent., and 20 per-cent. lower.

Heads of Receipts.	Amount, 1890.	Amount, 1891.	Increase.	Decrease.	Remarks.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Breach loading guns and rifles.	16 0 0	10 0 0	—	6 0 0	
Other fire-arms -	665 4 0	668 8 0	3 4 0	—	
Malt liquor - -	177 16 11	259 0 0	81 3 1	—	
Gunpowder - -	393 2 6	350 8 1	—	42 14 5	
Claret - - -	745 7 3	852 8 0	107 0 9	—	
Other wines - -	55 11 1	67 2 8	11 11 7	—	
Spirit, unsweetened -	3,322 0 1	2,521 17 3	—	800 2 10	
Spirit, sweetened -	262 17 11	268 13 6	5 15 7	—	
Brandy - - -	46 13 3	79 14 8	33 1 5	—	
Sugar - - -	644 17 10	841 10 1	196 12 3	—	
Tobacco, unmanufactured.	4,914 12 2	6,999 12 0	—	915 0 2	
Tobacco, manufactured	101 9 5	138 11 0	37 1 7	—	
Kola nuts - -	2,965 17 8	3,611 18 9	646 1 1	—	
Kerosine - -	117 12 3	92 7 3	—	25 5 0	
Salt - - -	344 13 8	450 11 2	105 17 6	—	
Lard - - -	48 7 10	41 5 2	—	7 2 8	
Rice - - -	558 7 11	754 15 4	196 7 5	—	
Oils and turps -	338 2 10	452 11 2	114 8 4	—	
Ad valorem - - -	3,358 17 1	3,469 19 1	111 2 0	—	
Total - -	19,077 11 8	18,930 13 2	1,649 6 7	1,796 5 1	

The quantities of the principal articles imported not consumed are given below in comparison with the importation of similar articles in 1890, and show a favourable increase in the value of cotton Goods.

Imports.

Articles.	1891.	1890.	Increase.	Decrease.
Cotton goods - -	39,593*l.*	37,225*l.*	2,368*l.*	—
Tobacco - - -	387,893 lbs.	215,039 lbs.	172,854	—
Kola nuts - - -	696,729 lbs.	601,319 lbs.	95,410 lbs.	—
Spirits of all kinds - -	43,771 galls.	43,323 galls.	448 galls.	—
Wines - - -	12,987 galls.	16,317 galls.	—	3,330 galls.
Sugar - - - -	239,610 lbs.	121,677 lbs.	117,933 lbs.	—
Salt - - -	1,342 tons	936 tons	406 tons	—
Fire-arms - - -	4,989	3,849	1,140	—
Gunpowder - -	818 brls.	858 brls.	—	40 brls.
Rice - - - -	1,443 tons	823 tons	620 tons	—
Specie - - - -	27,058*l.* 3*s.* 11*d.*	27,101*l.*	—	42*l.* 16*s.* 1*d.*

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The total value of the imports was 172,118*l.* and of the exports 180,051*l.*, and the revenue of the Colony was 31,000*l.* The highest figures that I can find in any previous years are in 1882–83 when the value of the imports was 217,000*l.*, of the exports 255,000*l.*, but the revenue was only 29,000*l.* and, therefore, in 1891 the revenue has been higher than in any previous year.

The comparative table of the principal exports shows that there was a trifling increase in the quantity of ground nuts shipped, but the most striking advance was in the export of rubber which in the last 3 years, 1889–91, has increased from 55,548lbs. to 246,690lbs.

Exports.

Articles.	1891.	1890.	Increase.	Decrease.
Ground nuts	19,702 tons Value, 142,933*l.*	18,262 tons Value, 129,817*l.*	1,440 tons Value, 13,116*l.*	—
Hides	1,642*l.*	1,093*l.*	549*l.*	—
Rubber	246,690 lbs. Value, 15,451*l.*	154,737*l.* 10,144*l.*	91,953 lbs. 5,307*l.*	—
Palm kernels	1,206 cwts.	3,131 tons	—	1,925 cwts.
Wax	1,808*l.*	1,744*l.*	64*l.*	—
Specie	8,885*l.*	9,886*l.*	—	1,001*l.*

Shipping.

The number of British steamers that entered and cleared was 72 against 36 French, although the greater part of the export trade is with France,

The total number of steamers that arrived and departed was 119 against 107 in the previous year.

Agriculture.

The cultivation of the land is carried on in the most primitive fashion. No capitalists own property or hire labour, and there is a great prejudice against the introduction of ploughs, or any change in the other rude implements used in farming. Rice and corn are the principal articles of food of the natives. A considerable quantity of both is grown, but not enough to satisfy the local demands, and the importation of rice amounts annually to over 1,000 tons.

Prisons.

The following table gives a comparison between 1891 and the two previous years in the statistical returns of the prison.

Year.	Total Number of Prisoners committed.	For Debt.	For safe Custody or want of Bail.	Penal Punishment.	Daily Average in Prison.	Number of Admissions to Hospital.	Daily Average on Sick List.	Number of Deaths.
1889 - -	94	1	18	75	50	22	2	3
1890 - -	59		13	44	31	20	2	6
1891 - -	111	—	24	87	37	24	2	—

The numbers show an increase on the previous year in each column except in the deaths, of which there were none during the past year, a very unusual occurrence.

Improvements in the description and management of the prison were commenced in June when a change was made in the gaolor and the other officers of the prison.

In December an officer (Mr. Western) belonging to the Imperial Convict Service, arrived in the Colony for the purpose of instructing native warders in their duties and he is now engaged on his work.

It is proposed to enlarge the prison and improve the internal arrangements, and when these works are finished, I hope the prison will be as good as can be expected on the West Coast of Africa.

Criminal Statistics.

An apparent increase in the returns might lead one to suppose that crime had increased in the Colony. Such, however, is not the case, but is accounted for by the vigilance of the police under the supervision of Captain Hawtayne who arrived in the Colony in April and took command of the force.

A man murdered his reputed wife at the end of the year, and was executed in January of this year.

Hospitals.

The average number of patients were admitted and the usual number of deaths occurred, and there is nothing special to comment upon.

During the latter part of the year, a ward was given up to the military authorities for the reception of any sick soldiers in the West India Regiment now stationed here.

Alterations are now being carried on at the hospital which will improve the accommodation, and provide a few cells for the temporary reception of lunatics detained here, pending an opportunity of sending them to the Asylum at Sierra Leone.

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Meteorology.

In the following table is found a comparison of the rainfall for the last five years, together with statistics of the temperature, &c. during the last half of the year :—

COMPARATIVE RAIN-FALL IN THE COLONY OF THE GAMBIA.

——	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.
January - -	—	0·02	—	—	0·01
February - -	—	—	—	—	0·16
March - -	—	—	—	—	—
April - - -	—	—	—	—	—
May - -	0·23	—	—	0·04	0·53
June - - -	1·67	0·58	1·16	2·40	4·67
July - -	11·38	8·54	3·23	16·42	7·42
August - - -	19·82	13·47	15·57	19·90	18·84
September - -	13·70	9·71	10·65	16·58	19·81
October - -	7·16	6·7	1·45	4·97	1·97
November - -	—	—	—	—	—
December - -	—	—	—	—	—
	53·96	39·09	32·06	60·31	53·41

Average - - - 47.76

METEOROLOGICAL STATISTICS, BATHURST, GAMBIA.

1891. Month.	Average for months at 7 a.m.			Maximum in shade at 3 p.m.			Maximum in shade 7 a.m.			Total Rainfall in inches.
	Dry Bulb.	Wet Bulb.	Dew-point.	Highest.	Lowest.	Average.	Highest.	Lowest.	Average.	
	°	°	°	°	°		°	°	°	°
July - -	87·8	76·2	74·5	92	82	86·7	78	68	73·4	7·42
August - - -	76·8	75·4	74·2	88	75	83·7	75	70	72·7	18·84
September - -	77·3	75·1	73·6	90	80	85·9	75	69	72·3	19·81
October - -	77·5	75·4	73·5	90	83	87·4	77	69	73·1	1·97
November - -	73·4	67·8	63·8	90	80	84·4	74	64	68·8	—
December - -	69·8	63·3	58·4	92	80	84·7	68	62	65·7	—

The rainfall was a fair one and fell at convenient dates for benefiting agriculture, so that the crops of rice, ground nuts, and corn were good.

It will be observed that, practically, there is never any rain from the 1st November until June in the following year, a period of seven months' drought.

Savings Bank.

The amount at the credit of the depositors in the savings bank increased from 879*l.* 13*s.* 1*d.* to 1,049*l.* 4*s.* 5*d.*, but the depositors fell from 84 to 79.

There are several friendly societies which give relief and assistance to members in cases of sickness, and there is some good done by all.

Government House.

The old office in the Government House has been converted into a billiard room, with a spare bedroom above it, and is a great improvement. The building is pretentious looking, but is not strongly built, and the ravages of insects with the trying climate tell upon the structure and the furniture, which latter will not last long, especially those articles that are upholstered.

The ground round Government House has been planted with trees, and they have grown fairly well, but as the place is a sheet of water which cannot be quickly drained off in the rainy season, and a bank of sand in the dry season, it is hardly to be expected that a garden in the general acceptation of the word can flourish.

The small house at Cape St. Mary contains three rooms. It is in fair order and furnished with chairs, tables, and bedsteads.

I do not think this place in the rainy season is any healthier than Bathurst, as the wind at that season does not blow from the sea, but over the swamps between Bathurst and Cape St. Mary.

Formerly the principal merchants kept up houses out there, but as they have allowed them to fall almost to ruin, I think it may be assumed that the advantages of the Cape as a residence in the rainy season, are not now considered to be so very superior to Bathurst, but in the dry season the air is a trifle cooler and fresher direct from the sea.

General Remarks.

Between the months of January and June, the officers (Captain A. H. Kenney, R.E. and Captain Pineau and M. Le Comte) engaged in the Anglo-French Boundary Commission, were busy on their work, which was most satisfactorily completed in the latter month, though at one time two of the powerful Chiefs Fodey Selah and Fodey Cabba threatened to cause some opposition to the survey.

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The latter Chief, however, made a treaty with the French Government, and promised to obey the orders of the French Government to suppress the slave trade, and to give up making raids on neighbouring territories.

Unfortunately, as was to be expected from his previous conduct, Fodey Cabba soon forgot these promises, and returned to the neighbourhood of the Vintang Creek in the month of August, and resumed his marauding slave-hunting habits in the British Protectorate.

Late in the year Her Majesty's Government decided to drive Fodey Cabba by force from the country now known to be within the British Protectorate, which he has so long devastated.

With the exception of the district infested by this troublesome Chief, the rest of the river was quiet, and consequently trade during the year has been very good, with a larger revenue than has ever before been collected in the Colony.

In the month of June His Excellency M. De Lamothe, Governor of Senegal, visited Bathurst in the gunboat "Brandon," which came to fetch from the Colony the French officers who had been engaged on the boundary survey.

In the month of May I visited Yarbutenda, about 245 miles up the river from Bathurst, and during the journey stayed at many places, including McCarthy's Island.

In December I visited several towns between Bathurst and Ballangar (100 miles), and went up the Saleraine and Suara Creeks on the north bank, where there are large towns.

The result of these visits convinces me that in the waterway of the Gambia there is a splendid opportunity for developing a much larger trade than has hitherto existed.

The settlement of the boundary line, which gives 10 kilometres on each bank of the river for 250 miles to the Colony, and in addition the whole of the navigable waters, about 40 miles, of the Vintang Creek, is an immense advantage which with the expulsion of the marauding Chief Fodey Cabba, and the establishment of peace, should ensure the advancement of the Colony in a degree almost hitherto unlooked for.

The country about the Gambia is so arid that the development of new agricultural industries is problematical, but the river as a trade route to the interior of Africa, with the port of Bathurst at its mouth, is undoubtedly a valuable possession with prospects of a great future.

31st March 1892. (Signed) R. B. LLEWELYN.

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For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

No. 49.

GIBRALTAR.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1891.

(For Report for 1890, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 13.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
August 1892.

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1892.

[C.—6829.-4.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
12	Turks and Caicos Islands	1890
13	Gibraltar	"
14	Zululand	"
15	Sierra Leone	"
16	Barbados	"
17	Falkland Islands	"
18	Labuan	"
19	British Honduras	"
20	Basutoland	1890–91
21	Trinidad and Tobago	1890
22	Leeward Islands	"
23	Grenada	"
24	Straits Settlements	"
25	British Guiana	"
26	St. Helena	"
27	Mauritius	"
28	Gambia	"
29	Hong Kong	"
30	Ceylon	1889
31	Lagos	"
32	Lagos	1890
33	Ceylon	"
34	Newfoundland	"
35	Jamaica	1889–91
36	Victoria	1890
37	British New Guinea	1890–91
38	St. Vincent	1891
39	Bermuda	"
40	Seychelles and Rodrigues	1889 and 1890
41	Gambia	1891
42	Barbados	"
43	Turks Islands	"
44	Bahamas	"
45	Fiji	1890
46	Seychelles	1891
47	British Bechuanaland	1890–92
48	Malta	1890 and 1891

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.

No. 49.

GIBRALTAR.

[For Report for 1890, *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 13.]

Sir LOTHIAN NICHOLSON to LORD KNUTSFORD.

MY LORD, Gibraltar, July 8, 1892.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith, for your Lordship's information, the Annual Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1891, together with the report thereon by Mr. Cavendish Boyle, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.

(Signed) LOTHIAN NICHOLSON,
General and Governor.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Gibraltar,
July 7, 1892.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour herewith to submit my Report upon the Blue Book for 1891 with an expression of regret that circumstances over which I have had no control have prevented me from furnishing the report at an earlier date.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CAVENDISH BOYLE,
Colonial Secretary.

His Excellency General Sir Lothian Nicholson, K.C.B.,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief,
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT on the BLUE BOOK for the year 1891.

FINANCIAL.

Revenue.

The public revenue of the Colony for the year 1891 amounted to 1,528,417 pesetas,* showing a decrease as compared with the previous year's revenue of 33,124 pesetas, the principal variations being under the following heads, viz. :—

	Pesetas.
Duty on Spirits - - - -	25,457
Port Dues - - - - -	35,977
Postage Revenue - - - -	14,716

* The average exchange value of the peseta in 1891 was about 8¼*d*.

GIBRALTAR.

A reference to the comparative statement of revenue in the Blue Book shows, however, that there have been increases under many of the minor heads of revenue which, taken collectively, counter-balance to some extent the decrease under the principal heads before mentioned.

There is also shown a special item of 25,000 pesetas, being the amount received from the War Department for land surrendered by the Crown Land Board and granted in fee to Mr. F. Imossi, J.P.

Amongst the heads of revenue showing an increase are:—

	Pesetas.
Sale of revenue stamps - - -	3,293.60
Vice Admiralty Court fees - - -	5,918.66

both these items being in connexion with the Supreme Court fees.

House rents also show an increase of 7,052.31 pesetas, this being due to the larger number of houses let by the Crown on monthly tenancies.

Comparative Statement.

Head of Service.	1890.	1891.
	Pesetas.	Pesetas.
Duty on wine - - - -	73,117	72,467
„ spirits - - - -	195,437	169,980
„ malt - - - -	28,120	28,856
Port dues - - - - -	451,097	415,119
Rates on hulks, &c. - -	42,518	41,913
Tavern licenses, 1st and 2nd Class - -	86,152	86,598
Fines in Court - - - -	8,775	6,746
Revenue stamps - - - -	22,912	26,205
Bills of health - - - -	32, 195	29,450
Vice-Admiralty fees - - -	3,130	9,049
Bonded store rents - - - -	2,528	14,615
Market stalls - - - -	40,080	41,467
Hospital receipts - - -	38,373	30,028
Postage and Money Order commission -	215,616	200,899
Telegraph fees - - - -	17,418	20,455
Ground rents - - - -	154,458	153,554
House rents - - - - -	10,388	17,440
Interest - - - -	13,266	17,455

Expenditure.

The expenditure for the year 1891 amounted to 1,572,128 pesetas, or an increase of 96,050 pesetas over that of 1890, this being attributable to an abnormal expenditure (already referred to in the Supplementary Estimates for 1891) under the following heads, viz. :—

	Pesetas.
Port Office - - - -	12,596.56
Post Office - - - -	19,591.96
Registrar of Births (expenses of census) -	5,615.45
Coroner - - - - -	6,207.18
Pensions - - - - -	11,559.09
S.S. "Utopia," general expenses - -	14,797 06
Purchase of Chincotta property - -	31,250.00

It will be seen therefore, that whilst there was a total falling off in revenue of 33,124 pesetas and an increased expenditure of 96,050 pesetas, making a grand total of 129,174 pesetas, the abnormal expenditure for the year 1891 may be safely taken at 90,000 pesetas, and although we cannot look for a repetition of the War Office grant of 25,000 pesetas, still in forecasting, it is to be hoped that, with economy, the future revenue, even with some further deductions, may meet the future expenditure.

Public debt, properly so called, there is none, and the Treasurer's return of assets and liabilities shows a balance in favour of the Colony at the end of 1891 of 469,597 pesetas.

The Sanitary Commissioners' indebtedness, at the same date, amounted to 50,776*l.*, and provision has been made by ordinance for the consolidation of those loans at a reduced rate of interest.

Shipping.

The following table shows comparatively the returns for 1890–91 :—

Heads.	Vessels.		Tons.		Crews.	
	1890.	1891.	1890.	1891.	1890.	1891.
Vessels entered and cleared - -	12,621	11,536	11,488,693	10,665,744	330,061	314,191
British - -	9,248	8,163	9,542,035	8,606,413	264,475	240,689
Foreign - -	3,373	3,373	1,946,658	2,059,331	65,586	73,502
Steam - -	11,278	10,209	11,340,895	10,513,726	321,062	05,102
Sailing - -	1,343	1,327	147,798	152,018	8,999	9,089
	Vessels.		Tons.		Crews.	
Decrease in 1891 -	1,085		822,949		15,870	

GIBRALTAR.

Much of this falling off may be attributed to the restrictions imposed by Russia on grain export.

The trade of Gibraltar is largely dependent upon the number of vessels making use of the port, and there can be no disguising the fact that this number has lately lessened, and the local Executive and Her Majesty's advisers are in no way unaware of the condition of affairs in this connection, but as yet no method of staying the falling off, alike in trade-profits and in revenue, has been found.

It is believed, as stated above, that much of the reduction may be attributed to the restrictions imposed on grain export by Russia, but there are also other causes to be noticed, the shipping business throughout the world has been slack, differences between employer and employed in the coal trade, and even strikes of the latter, have not tended to induce more shipowners to use the port; competition at the neighbouring harbours of Malta and Algiers has run high, and all these circumstances have combined in producing a decrease in the port business and in the revenue derived from shipping. The Government is fully alive to these facts, and those interested in the trade may rest assured that any suggestions which may be put forward with the view of bringing about an improvement in the business of the port, will receive full and careful consideration.

But there is another subject which requires, I venture to think, some notice here, and that is, the very serious rise in exchange, a rise distinctly adverse to the Colony generally. The four quarterly rates as fixed between the Imperial and Colonial Departments during the year were as follows:—First quarter pts. 25.98 to the pound sterling; second quarter, pts. 26.05; third quarter, pts. 26.20, and fourth quarter, pts. 26.88. Now, it was utterly impossible, in framing the estimates of expenditure, to foresee this very considerable fall in the value of the local currency, and, therefore, many of the items of expenditure for services paid for through the Crown Agents in London, were increased as the rate went against the dollar and in favour of the sovereign. Moreover, the fixed quarterly rates do not show the actual market variations; these rates are based on the average transactions of the Imperial Chest Office during the previous quarter, and it frequently happens, that during the ensuing quarter, the market rate rules considerably higher than that which has been fixed inter-departmentally, and so the Colonial Treasury either pours local currency into the Imperial Chest in exchange for Treasury certificates on London, to the disadvantage of the last-named department, or is forced to purchase paper in the market at a rate of exchange higher than that which has been fixed for Government transactions.

Independently of all this, the depreciation of the value of the dollar affects every branch of the local trade. The consumer pays more for all articles imported from the mother country, and consequently the necessaries of life rise in price. Merchants, marketmen, land and house holders, and traders are forced to raise

their prices and their rents, and the community generally has less money to spend.

The market rates of exchange were as under during the year :—

	p. c.	p. c.
Ten days bills - - -	highest 28 91,	lowest 25·94
Sight bills - - -	„ 29·00,	„ 25·98

Crime.—Criminal Statistics.

The number of summary convictions before the Magistrate in 1891 was 631, or 285 less than in 1890. 449 persons were discharged with a caution.

The majority of these cases were for minor offences.

Ten cases were brought for trial before the Supreme Court, namely, one of rape, five of offences against the person, three of offences against property, and one of uttering counterfeit coins.

Verdicts for the Crown were returned in six of these cases, namely, one of rape, four of offences against the person, and one of uttering counterfeit coins.

In one case, namely, an offence against property, a "nolle prosequi" was entered by the Attorney-General. In another case, also, an offence against property, the Grand Jury returned "No Bill," and in two cases, namely, one of offence against the person and one of offence against property, verdicts were found for the accused.

Gaols and Prisons.

There were 168 persons committed to prison during the year 161 men, 4 women, and 3 juveniles; of these, 4 were for debt, 10 for safe custody, and 154 for purposes of penal imprisonment; 12 had been committed once before, 8 twice, and 49 had been in prison on three or more previous occasions. Three were confined for five or more years, three between one and five years, four for more than three months but under a year, and 158 for three months or less. The daily average was 25·20, the number of admissions to hospital was four, and the daily sick average was ·30; there were no deaths in the prison in 1891.

Education.

The inspector's report shows that the school year passed without any serious interruption of the work on account of epidemics, so frequent of late years. The average attendance has risen to 1,368 as against 1,297 last year, although the average earning per scholar has fallen considerably, being now only pesetas 22.03, whereas it was pesetas 27.59. The work done in the schools is generally satisfactory.

GIBRALTAR.

Laws.

The principal laws passed during this year were :—

The Gibraltar Laws Order in Council.
The Sanitary Order Amendment Order.
An Ordinance to amend the Census Ordinance of 1868.
An Ordinance to amend the Cemetery Ordinance, 1889.
An Ordinance to amend the Dog Ordinance, 1880.
An Ordinance to amend the Savings Bank Ordinance.
An Ordinance to enable the Sanitary Commissioners to consolidate Loans raised by them for Public purposes.

Population and Health.—Statistics.

The total population of Gibraltar, according to the Census taken on the 5th April 1891, was :—

City and Territory	Civil	19,100
	Military	5,896
Port and Harbour		759
Total		25,755

As compared with the Census taken in 1881, these figures show an increase in the civil population of the town of 719 and in the garrison of 286. No Census of the port and harbour was taken before 1891.

According to the health-officer's report the public health of Gibraltar was exceptionally good. The death-rate of the fixed civil population (16,906) was 20·70 per 1,000, while that of the total civil population (19,100) was 18·95, the difference being due entirely to the low death-rate of 5·46 per mille amongst the 2,194 resident aliens.

The number of births recorded in 1891 was 486. This is 136 in excess of the deaths amongst the fixed civil population, and is equal to a birth-rate of 28·1 per mille; the birth-rate for the previous year was 29·1.

Meteorological.

The returns show the absolute minimum air temperature at 33·0 on the 8th January, and absolute maximum on the 16th August at 90·4. The mean relative humidity was 69. The total rainfall was 43·97 inches, maximum in 24 hours 5·45 on the 31st October, and there were eighty-three days during which rain fell. There were 151 days of east and 152 of west wind.

The amount of rainfall in 1889 was 30·86, and in 1890, 33·39 inches.

Civil Service.

The following changes, acting appointments, &c. took place and were made in the service of the Colony during the year, viz. :—

In January.

Major-General H. R. L. Newdigate acted as the Governor's deputy, Mr. R. Ffrench Sheriff, Q.C. Attorney-General as Police Magistrate, and Mr. W. Seed, Chief of Police, as Deputy Coroner. Mr. R. C. Williams was appointed to the Commission of the Peace.

In February.

His Excellency General Sir Lothian Nicholson, K.C.B., appointed Governor-in-Chief, Colonel J. Fellowes, C.R.E., appointed Chairman of Cemetery Committee, and Mr. A. Porral, First-class Clerk, Crown Land Office, Secretary of the Crown Land Board, with a seat at the Board.

In April.

His Honour Sir H. B. Burford-Hancock, Kt., C.M.G., Chief Justice, appointed Chairman of the Colonial Hospital Commissioners. Mr. A. M. Coll, M.A., Barrister-at-Law, acted as Police Magistrate. Cemetery Committee appointed under new Ordinance :—Colonel J. Fellowes, C.R.E., Brigade-Surgeon R. Collins, M.S.; Mr. S. Buckle, Colonial Engineer; Mr. W. Seed, Chief of Police; Venerable Archdeacon D.S. Govett, M. A., Civil Chaplain; Right Rev. G. Canilla, D. D., Vicar Apostolic; Mr. M. A. Serfaty, Chairman of the Sanitary Commissioners; Mr. W. A. Thomson, President of the Chamber of Commerce; Mr. Lewis F. Imossi, Chairman of the Exchange Committee and Chamber of Commerce.

In July.

Surgeon-Major-General R. W. Meadows, M.D., Principal Medical Officer, was appointed Consulting Surgeon of the Colonial Hospital. Mr. R. Ffrench Sheriff, Q.C., Attorney-General, acted as Chief Justice; Mr. A. W. Fawkes, Police Magistrate, as Attorney-General; and Mr. A. M. Coll, M.A., Barrister-at-Law, as Police Magistrate. Mr. Coll was appointed Administrator-General of unrepresented estates. Mr. Henry F. Recano, Q.C., acted as Chief Justice.

In August.

Mr. A. W. Fawkes, Police Magistrate, acted as a Commissioner in Bankruptcy, and Major E. R. Hussey, R.E., as Colonial Engineer.

In September.

Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel A. W. Duke, M.S., appointed a member of the Cemetery Committee.

GIBRALTAR.

In October.

Mr. A. W. Fawkes, Police Magistrate, acted as Registrar of the Supreme Court. Sanitary Commissioners under new Order in Council Amendment Order appointed:—

Mr. Cavendish Boyle, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary, and Mr. R. C. Williams, Colonial Treasurer, to represent the Government of Gibraltar; Staff-Surgeon S. W. Vasey, R.N., to represent the Admiralty; Colonel J. Fellowes, C.R.E., to represent War Department; Surgeon-Major-General R. W. Meadows, M.D. Principal Medical Officer; Messrs. A. Rugeroni and W. J. S. Smith from the Grand Jurors List; Mr. A. Dumoulin from the list of Special Jurors, and Mr. A. von Andlau from the Common Jurors List. Mr. E. M. Hutton was appointed Registrar of the Supreme Court.

In November.

Mr. John C. King, Chief and Confidential Clerk, Colonial Secretary's Department, was appointed to be Assistant Colonial Secretary.

Public Works.

The principal public works undertaken during the year were:—

(1.) The provision of a steam disinfecting apparatus for the Colonial Hospital.
(2.) Rain-water tank for Port Office.
(3.) Extensive alterations and improvements at the Post Office.
(4.) The construction of a barrack for the men at the Quarantine Boarding Station.
(5.) A look-out tower for shipping at Montague Bastion.

Statistical Returns.

The usual statistical returns will be found appended to this report.

CAVENDISH BOYLE,
Colonial Secretary.

7th July 1892.

APPENDIX I.

RETURNS FOR THE BOARD OF TRADE.

Population.

Estimated. 1890.		*As per Census* 1891.	
Civil - - -	18,527	Civil - - -	19,100
Military - -	5,697	Military - -	5,896
Male - -	14,285	Male - -	13,906
Female - -	9,939	Female - -	11,090

	1890.	1891.
	£	£
Gross amount of public revenue - -	62,461	61,136
Gross amount of public expenditure -	59,043	62,885
Customs revenue - - - -	11,867	10,852
Public debt - - - - -	—	—
	Tons.	Tons.
Total tonnage of vessels entered and cleared -	11,488,693	10,665,744
Tonnage of British vessels entered and cleared	9,542,035	8,606,413
Tonnage of foreign vessels entered and cleared	1,946,658	2,059,331
Tonnage of sailing vessels entered and cleared	147,798	152,018
Tonnage of steam vessels entered and cleared	11,340,895	10,513,726
Value of total imports - - -	No returns available.	
Value of imports from the United Kingdom -		
Value of total exports - - -		
Value of total exports to the United Kingdom - - - - -		

(Signed) CAVENDISH BOYLE,
Colonial Secretary.

APPENDIX II.

RETURN of the NUMBER, TONNAGE, and CREWS of VESSELS entered and cleared from and to Foreign Countries *viâ* the Suez Canal during the year 1891.

Countries.	Entered.			Cleared.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.
India - -	205	377,220	12,727	66	146,266	9,611
Australia - -	60	164,462	10,530	45	131,384	8,430
Java - -	21	35,568	599	3	2,528	68
Japan -	20	32,682	754	5	8,207	239
Manilla -	17	25,332	473	—	—	—
Burmah - -	13	20,890	419	—	—	—
Persia - -	7	9,200	196	—	—	—
China - -	3	5,981	284	8	13,787	505
Cochin China -	2	2,126	40	1	1,349	25
Straits Settlements -	2	3,759	61	1	2,400	64
New Caledonia -	1	2,312	43	—	—	—
Hong Kong -	1	2,356	63	—	—	—
Siam - -	1	1,617	23	—	—	—
Aden - -	—	—	—	2	3,304	79
Arabia - -	—	—	—	2	3,144	58
Perim -	—	—	—	1	28	8
Mauritius - -	—	—	—	1	422	17
Ceylon - -	—	—	—	1	1,976	25
Tonkin - -	—	—	—	1	1,177	25
Total -	353	683,505	26,212	137	315,972	19,154

APPENDIX III.

Statement of Assets and Liabilities on the 31st December 1891.

Assets.	Amount.	Liabilities.	Amount.
	Pesetas Cents.		Pesetas Cents.
Outstanding ground rents	48,204 51	Pension due to Mr. Byrne from 6th November 1882 to 31st December 1891, at 60*l.* per annum, 549*l.* 2*s.* 7*d.*	14,760 59
„ house rents	2,933 00	Deposits outstanding	8,754 52
Cash balance in Colonial Treasury	68,656 42	Loan from Crown Agents, 3,500*l.*	94,080 00
Invested funds as follows:—		Amount overpaid by Crown Agents on 31st December 1891	2,686 09
£ s. d.		Grant in aid of Sailors' Mission for 1891	630 00
1,000 0 0 4 per cent. South Australia.		Works and buildings	6,500 00
2,363 11 5 3½ „ New South Wales.		Transit postage due to Spain	29,111 67
2,727 8 6 4 „ Canada.		„ „ „ France	8,955 37
930 4 2 4 „ Cape of Good Hope.		„ „ „ Italy	544 88
2,116 7 6 3 „ Canada.		„ „ „ United Kingdom	4,327 00
1,415 1 5 4 „ Jamaica.		„ „ „ Belgium	8 19
4,917 0 0 3½ „ Victoria.		Balance due to Malta, M.O. account	1,441 50
2,121 19 10 3 „ Ceylon.		„ United Kingdom, general account	46,319 87
1,038 18 9 3½ „ Natal.		Amount of money orders drawn by:	
18,630 11 7 at 26·88	500,789 96	United Kingdom on Gibraltar remaining unpaid	1,677 20
Accrued interest on invested funds, 239*l.* 9*s.* 7*d.*	6,437 20	Malta „ „ „	196 00
North Front rents	6,925 72	Tangier „ „ „	40 00
Rent of limekiln	2,000 00	on Tangier „ „ „	107 00
„ contractor's store	461 95	Amount due to Spain for telegrams forwarded	11,474 16
„ Government dredger	250 00	„ Eastern Telegraph Company	365 35
„ cranes	740 00		231,979 39
„ petroleum stores	126 00		
Advances outstanding	9,405 85	Balance of assets over liabilities	469,597 11
Amount due by Egypt on P.P. account	62 70		
Cash in hands of Postmistress	11,896 15		
„ Tangier agent	3,882 52		
Value of postal orders unsold	35,260 70		
Amount due by Spain for telegrams received	,525 13		
„ Cable Company to Colonial Government for transit messages forwarded	18 76		
	701,576 57		701,576 57

LONDON: Printed by EYRE and SPOTTISWOODE,
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For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

No. 23.

GRENADA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1890.

(In continuation of Colonial Report No. 91, Old Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
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1892.

[C.—6563.–7.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

No.	Colony.	Year.
89	Zululand	1889
90	Gibraltar	,,
91	Grenada	,,
92	Bermuda	,,
93	St. Vincent	1888
94	St. Vincent	1889
95	Bahamas	,,
96	St. Lucia	,,
97	British Bechuanaland	1888–9
98	Turks and Caicos	1889
99	Gambia	,,
100	Straits Settlement	,,
101	St. Kitts-Nevis	1888
102	Basutoland (Governor's visit)	1890
103	British New Guinea	1888-9
104	Natal	1889
105	Malta	,,
106	British Guiana	,,
107	Barbados	,,
108	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
109	Western Australia	,,
110	Gold Coast (Agriculture)	1890
111	Labuan	1889
112	Jamaica	,,
113	Falkland Islands	,,
114	Basutoland	1889–90
115	Sierra Leone	1889
116	Fiji	,,
117	Hong Kong	,,
118	St. Helena	,,

NEW SERIES OF COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

1	British Honduras	1889
2	Mauritius	,,
3	British Bechuanaland	1889–90
4	Victoria	1889
5	Newfoundland	,,
6	British New Guinea	1889–90
7	St. Vincent	1890
8	Bermuda	,,
9	Leeward Islands	1889
10	St. Lucia	1890
11	Bahamas	,,
12	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
13	Gibraltar	,,
14	Zululand	,,
15	Sierra Leone	,,
16	Barbados	,,
17	Falkland Islands	,,
18	Labuan	,,
19	British Honduras	,,
20	Basutoland	1890–91
21	Trinidad and Tobago	1890
22	Leeward Islands	,,

No. 23.

GRENADA.

[In continuation of Colonial Report No. 91, Old Series.]

Sir W. HELY-HUTCHINSON to LORD KNUTSFORD.

MY LORD, Grenada, August 13, 1891.

I FORWARD the Blue Book for Grenada for 1890, together with the Acting Colonial Secretary's report thereon.

2. Mr. Drayton has taken pains to revise the Blue Book carefully and thoroughly. Section A. in particular has been entirely remodelled, and for the first time contains a full statement of the parochial taxation.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WALTER HELY-HUTCHINSON.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT on BLUE BOOK for 1890.

Sources of Revenue.

1. There was no change made in taxation or other source of revenue in the year 1890, with the exception of the imposition of a fee of 1*l.* for every "occasional" license for sale of liquors issued by the Treasury. As in the previous year, an additional import duty of 2½ per cent. *ad valorem* was levied on articles not specified or exempted by the tariff, and the collection of export dues was suspended.

o 68530. Wt. 19750

Revenue.

2. The revenue for 1890 was 49,267*l.*, being 1,468*l.* more than the average of the four preceding years, and 1,174*l.* less than in 1889, as shown in the following statement:—

Head of Revenue.	1890.	1889.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
1. Customs - - -	24,760	24,349	411	—
2. Licenses, excise, and internal revenue not otherwise specified - - - -	16,510	16,820	—	310
3. Fees of court or office, payments for specific services, and reimbursements in aid - -	6,371	7,052	—	681
4. Post Office - - -	913	873	40	—
5. Rent of Government property -	410	231	179	—
6. Interest - - -	122	427	—	305
7. Repayment by parochial boards of loans from general revenue	—	50	—	50
8. Miscellaneous receipts - -	130	86	44	—
9. Land sales - - -	51	553	—	502
Total - -	49,267	50,441	674	1,848
	—	49,267	—	674
Decrease in 1890 - -	—	1,174	—	1,174

The decrease is apparent only, and is due to the introduction of a proper system of treasury accounts by which sundry items formerly treated as revenue were relegated to their correct heads.

Expenditure.

3. The expenditure for 1890 was 53,356*l.*, being 6,303*l.* more than the average of the previous four years, and 2,270*l.* more than the expenditure of 1889, as shown in the subjoined table:—

Head of Expenditure.	1890.	1889.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
1. Charge on account of public debt -	2,032	2,000	32	—
2. Pensions - - - -	638	690	—	52
3. The Governor and Legislature -	2,446	2,129	317	—
4. Colonial Secretary - - -	1,961	1,697	264	—
5. Treasury, Customs, &c. - -	3,438	3,486	—	48
6. Audit - - - -	581	433	148	—
7. Port and Marine - - -	257	225	32	—

Head of Expenditure.	1890.	1889.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
8. Legal	4,427	4,549	—	122
9. Police	4,181	4,211	—	30
10. Prisons	1,115	1,201	—	86
11. Medical	6,321	6,999	—	678
12. Education	4,943	4,281	662	—
13. Ecclesiastical	520	524	—	4
14. Charitable	415	380	35	—
15. Miscellaneous	2,485	2,646	—	161
16. Post Office	2,258	2,386	—	128
17. Agricultural	411	311	100	—
18. Public Works Department	1,833	1,671	162	—
19. Public Works, Recurrent	9,430	9,540	—	110
20. Public Works, Extraordinary	3,664	1,727	1,937	—
Totals	53,356	51,086	3,689	1,419
	51,086	—	1,419	—
Increase in 1890	2,270	—	2,270	—

The increase as compared with 1889 is due to the large outlay on necessary public works and roads in 1890, and to an alteration in 1889 of the education byelaws which made the result grants to primary school teachers payable in a lump sum after the annual examination instead of spreading them over the following year.

Assets and Liabilities.

4. On 31st December 1890 the Colonial assets exceeded the liabilities by 5,941*l.*, as will be seen from the annexed statement of the financial position :—

Assets.	£	s.	d.	Liabilities.	£	s.	d.
Cash in Colonial chest	236	13	6	Deposits, as follows :—			
On deposit with Colonial Bank	3,017	13	7	Savings bank	6,883	14	7
On current account with ditto	1,775	12	9	Immigration fund	1,963	11	6
Invested in South Australian 4 Per Cent. Inscribed Stock (nominal value, 3,805*l.*)	4,000	0	0	Sinking Fund, Public Works Loan	2,155	9	2
Advances (representing either amounts due to the Colony or expenditure not brought to account) :—Parochial boards for local works	7,019	5	11	Fire insurance fund	1,591	13	10
Parochial boards, loans from general revenue	1,143	15	5	Post Office account	795	4	4
St. Lucia account	893	3	2	St. Paul's water supply	191	1	7
St. Vincent ditto	561	18	5	Deposits on sight entries	119	4	2
Trinidad and Tobago account	57	6	8	Governor's office fund	35	1	0
Distillery apparatus	1,141	19	11	Primary school books	32	5	10
Materials, &c., Works Department	497	5	2	Family remittances	20	13	4
Public Works Loan Works	1,932	7	11	Petty Debt Courts' deposits	15	13	4
Other advances	319	16	7	Supreme Court deposits	40	4	0
				Land Acquisition deposits	5	0	0
				Due to Crown Agents	2,807	8	7
					16,656	5	3
				Surplus assets	5,940	13	9
	£22,596	19	0		£22,596	19	0

These figures are, of course, exclusive of the amount due for public works to debenture holders—44,475*l.*—for the redemption of which special provision is made, and of a loan of 1,000*l.* raised in 1879 for St. George's waterworks, the repayment of which in 1899 by the parochial board is guaranteed on the security of the general revenue.

Public Debt.

5. The net public debt of the Colony (exclusive of the above sum of 1,000*l.*) at the end of 1890, was 42,320*l.*, as follows :—

1890.		£	s.	d.	1890.		£	s.	d.
Dec. 31.	Amount of Sinking Fund on deposit with the Colonial Bank -	2,155	9	2	Dec. 31.	Due to sundry debenture holders at this date - - -	44,475	0	0
	Balance, being net indebtedness on account of loan for public works - - -	42,319	10	10					
	Total - -	44,475	0	0		Total - -	44,475	0	0

Parochial Revenue and Expenditure.

6. The receipts and disbursements of the parochial bodies, who are charged with the management of the towns and second-class byeways, are detailed in the following table :—

Parish.	Revenue, 1890.			Expenditure, 1890.		
	Balance at 30th Sept. 1889.	Receipts in 1889-90.	Total.	Expenditure in 1889-90.	Balance at 30th Sept. 1890.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
St. George's -	217	4,005	4,222	4,179	43	4,222
„ David's - -	—	313	313	341	—	341
„ Andrew's -	519	1,439	1,958	1,697	261	1,958
„ Patrick's -	—	1,746	1,746	1,971	—	1,971
„ Mark's - -	27	428	455	360	95	455
„ John's - -	52	979	1,031	843	188	1,031
Carriacou - -	243	646	889	554	335	889
Total -	1,058	9,556	10,614	9,945	922	10,867

7. In the above statement are included the following loans from the Government for local work :—

	£
St. George's, for Sendall Tunnel - -	1,502
„ Patrick's, for Sauteurs Jetty - -	1,100
„ John's, for Gouyave do. - -	450
Carriacou, for water supply - - -	300

The total indebtedness of the several boards to the Government for such works at the end of 1890 was 10,594*l.*, as shown below:—

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
St. George's—						
For Sendall Tunnel -	1,962	3	0			
„ waterworks, from immigration fund -	1,430	19	3			
„ waterworks, John-McPhail -	1,000	0	0			
„ market sheds -	1,018	18	10			
„ street improvement	600	0	0			
„ general purposes	150	0	0			
				6 162	1	1
St. Andrew's—						
For Grenville breakwater	400	0	0			
„ Grenville water supply	45	3	8			
				445	3	8
St. Patrick's—						
For Sauteurs Jetty - -				1,100	0	0
St. John's—						
For Gouyave waterworks	2,093	0	5			
„ Gouyave Jetty repairs	450	0	0			
				2,543	0	5
Carriacou—						
For water supply - - -				343	15	5
				£ 10,594	0	7

There were also due to the Government from the boards at that date, 888*l.*, arrears of contributions for maintenance of byeways, and 468*l.*, arrears of interest on loans, so that their debts may be set down as 11,950*l.*

Public Works.

8. The total expenditure during the year on account of public works and roads was 22,981*l.*, of which 13,095*l.* was from general revenue, and 9,796*l.* from loan funds.

9. The erection of two important bridges at the Castigue and Balthazard Fords was commenced and nearly completed, and the work on that over the St. Mark's River at Victoria, which had been interrupted by the flood of 1889, was resumed, while the reconstruction of the main roads between St. George's and Grenville, Grenville and Sauteurs, and Gouyave and Grenville was continued. On the ordinary maintenance and repair of highways and byeways 7,061*l.* was expended, and 1,096*l.* was granted from general revenue for road extension and other extraordinary work on the roads of the island.

10. General repairs and improvements of public buildings were executed at a cost of 1,586*l.*, and the erection of the new ware-

GRENADA. house and library buildings and repairs of the Court House in St. George's were proceeded with. A lighthouse at Fort George was commenced, additions were made to the quarters of the revenue officer at Carriacou, and of the director of works, and a public works store-room was built at Grenville.

11. The additional waterworks for St. George's and the St. Paul's and Richmond Hill District were completed, securing for the chief town and its neighbourhood a supply of water which both for quantity and quality will compare favourably with any similar supply in the West Indies.

Legislation.

12. Eighteen Ordinances as follows passed into law during the year:—

No. 1. The Appropriation Ordinance, 1890.
No. 2. The Ad Valorem Duties Ordinance, 1889.
No. 3. The Export Duties Suspending Ordinance, 1890.
No. 4. The Audit Ordinance, 1890.
No. 5. The Collection of Ad Valorem Duties Indemnification Ordinance, 1890.
No. 6. The Non-collection of Export Duties Indemnification Ordinance, 1890.
No. 7. The Commissions of Inquiry Ordinance, 1890.
No. 8. The Magistrates' Clerks Ordinance, 1889, Amendment Ordinance, 1890.
No. 9. The Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance, 1890.
No. 10. The Liquor Licence Ordinance, 1887, Amendment Ordinance, 1890.
No. 11. The Bank Holidays Act, 1875, Amendment Ordinance, 1890.
No. 12. The Roads Ordinance, 1889, Amendment Ordinance, 1890.
No. 13. The St. George's Water Supply Amending Ordinance, 1890
No. 14. The Parochial Boards Ordinance, 1889, Amendment Ordinance, 1890.
No. 15. The Appropriation Ordinance, 1891.
No. 16. The Excise Ordinance, 1890.
No. 17. The Export Duties Suspending Ordinance, 1891.
No. 18. The Ad Valorem Duties Ordinance, 1891.

13. The most important of these are No. 4, which abolishes the office of auditor and the system of audit as previously constituted, so as to enable the audit of the Colonial accounts to be conducted under the control of the Comptroller and Auditor General in England; No. 7, which empowers the Governor to issue commissions of inquiry with specified status and powers; No. 11, creating additional bank holidays; and No. 16, which provides for a complete alteration of the excise system and legalises distillation of rum into locked receptacles, the keys of which are in the custody of the revenue officers.

14. The system of distillation under police supervision, begun in 1888, although an improvement on previous arrangements, afforded opportunities for smuggling which, it may be anticipated, will not be offered by this new system, and at date of this report the proceeds of the duty on rum since the change fully justify the opinions which led to the alteration.

Councils.

15. Mr. L. R. Fyfe, the new Colonial Secretary, took his seat ex officio at both Councils, and Messrs. W. S. Comissiong, C. H. Collymore, C. F. Anton, and W. Low filled temporary seats while acting for the Attorney-General and the Treasurer respectively.

16. In the Legislative Council Dr. McLeod, medical officer of the first district, was appointed to a vacant seat on the official side, and Mr. C. Messervy, Director of Public Works, was given an acting appointment during the time that the Colonial Secretary was administering the Government. Temporary vacancies that occurred during the year in the unofficial section were filled by Messrs. D. Webster, J. R. Bertrand, and W. Copland.

Establishments.

17. During the absences of the Governor on duty in the other islands of the Government the administration was carried on by Messrs. F. M. Chadwick, L. R. Fyfe, and E. Drayton, the officers discharging the duties of Colonial Secretary. Mr. L. R. Fyfe, of the Colonial Secretary's Department in Jamaica, was appointed Colonial Secretary, and took up his duties on 7th February, and Mr. F. M. Chadwick, who had been acting in that office, retired on pension on 31st March, being succeeded in his offices of Treasurer and Comptroller of Customs by Mr. E. Drayton, the registrar, whose place was in turn taken by Mr. C. F. Anton, the auditor of St. Lucia. Mr. Fyfe, being compelled to go on leave at the end of October on account of serious illness, Mr. Drayton, took his place as Colonial Secretary, and the Treasury Department was placed in charge of Mr. C. F. Anton, temporarily, and then of Mr. W. Low, the police magistrate of the first district, St. Lucia.

18. Mr. J. F. Lavington Payne was appointed magistrate of the southern district in October, vice Mr. H. Lighton Robinson, resigned, and Mr. G. W. Smith took the place of curator of the Botanical Garden in November, vice Mr. C. M. Murray, who resigned after six months' service.

19. Important changes were made in the Treasury Department, the staff of subordinate revenue officers being increased and the duties revised, with the object of dissevering the outdoor and indoor branches of the work in the out districts, and providing an efficient check to smuggling. It may here be added that the most satisfactory results have so far attended the change, valuable seizures

GRENADA.

of smuggled goods having been made in the Grenadines, and increased revenue is being received from Customs and Excise.

Pensions.

20. The list was increased by 268*l.* during the year by the following pensions:—

	£
F. M. Chadwick, late treasurer - -	193
E. A. Guthrie, late organist - -	42
Jos. Roberts, late librarian, St. George s -	33

At the end of the year the total pensions payable by the Colony amounted to 739*l.* per annum.

Vital Statistics.

21. The estimated population at 31st December was 51,427, a result which the census of 5th April 1891 has demonstrated to be 1,350 short of the actual figures. This deficiency is (as shown in the Blue Book report for 1888) due to immigration from neighbouring Colonies of which no record is kept.

22. The birth and death rates have this year been calculated on the mean population at 30th June, instead of, as in previous years, on the population at 1st January, and the results per thousand are most satisfactory, being as follows:—Birth rate, 45·66; death rate, 25·31.

Education.

23. An abstract of the returns relating to primary schools for 1890, comparing the results with those of 1889, is appended.

Description of School.	No. of Schools.	Number of Scholars.				Income.			Expenditure.
		On Roll.		Total on Roll.	Average Attendance.	School Fees.	Government Contributions.	Voluntary Contributions.	
		Boys.	Girls.			£	£		£
Government -	9	863	613	1,476	748	186	1,057	—	1,243
Assisted:—									
Anglican - -	7	772	530	1,302	705	191	891	—	1,082
Roman Catholic	9	1,007	929	1,936	987	187	917	—	1,104
Wesleyan -	5	490	447	937	527	123	672	—	795
Presbyterian -	1	95	63	158	96	4	8	—	12
Totals for 1890 -	31	3,227	2,582	5,809	3,063	691	3,545	—	4,236
„ „ 1889 -	29	2,685	2,098	4,783	2,518	635	3,180	—	3,815
Increase in 1890 -	2	542	484	1,026	545	56	365	—	421

24. A Government school was established at Happy Hill, in St. George's parish, and a school on Samaritan Estate in St.

Mark's was placed on the list of assisted schools. The necessity for schools in these districts is evidenced by the number on the rolls, 117 and 158 respectively; and the school at Samaritan, which was established by the Presbyterian body in connexion with their mission to the Indian immigrants, is largely attended by the coolies' children, the daily average being 96.

25. 664*l.* was expended by the Government in the erection and improvement of primary school buildings during the year, in addition to the sums detailed in the above abstract.

26. The grammar school in St. George's made satisfactory progress during the year, the examination held in January 1891 resulting in 29 boys obtaining more than 50 per cent. of marks. The number of boys on the roll was 45.

Imports and Exports.

27. The subjoined table illustrates the amount and direction of the trade of the Colony during the last five years :—

Year.	Imports.				Exports.			
	United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	Foreign Countries.	Totals.	United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	Foreign Countries.	Totals.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1886 -	53,553	49,044	17,741	120,338	159,805	10,940	9,946	180,691
1887 -	73,306	47,787	22,093	143,186	185,216	10,612	22,121	217,949
1888 -	82,597	52,522	27,318	162,437	202,684	9,182	17,397	229,263
1889 -	87,762	45,733	40,586	174,081	172,912	7,515	15,168	195,595
1890 -	93,258	37,284	40,332	170,874	241,221	8,882	16,199	266,302
Totals -	390,476	232,370	148,070	770,916	961,838	47,131	80,831	1,089,800
Average -	78,095	46,474	29,614	154,183	192,368	9,426	16,166	217,960

28. In the year under review the imports were 16,691*l.*, and the exports 48,342*l.* above the average of the period, the exports being in fact the largest on record. The steady increase of the trade with the United Kingdom and foreign countries, and the corresponding decrease of that with British Colonies, are noticeable features, and the following analysis of the foreign trade in 1890 may be interesting:—

Country.	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
United States of America - -	39,086	1,319
France - - - -	136	13,846
Martinique - - - -	343	700
Venezuela - - - -	177	334
Other countries - - -	590	—
Total - - -	40,332	16,199

GRENADA.

29. A comparative statement of the value of the principal exports in the last five years is annexed:—

Year.	Cocoa.	Cotton.	Cotton Seed.	Fire-wood.	Fruit.	Hides.	Live Stock.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1886 - -	155,938	998	127	1,456	71	511	4,693
1887 - -	185,412	8,048	1,368	1,170	110	437	2,742
1888 - -	199,902	7,632	1,413	1,098	167	547	3,230
1889 - -	166,178	6,714	1,182	842	151	641	3,312
1890 - -	228,889	7,973	1,503	1,231	426	302	3,116
Totals -	936,319	31,365	5,593	5,797	925	2,438	17,093
Average -	187,264	6,273	1,119	1,159	185	488	3,419

(*Continued.*)

Year.	Manure.	Peas.	Poultry.	Spices.	Sugar.	Turtle Shell.	Log-wood.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1886 - -	311	1,705	341	8,999	771	784	786
1887 - -	301	3,063	484	9,709	1,920	280	301
1888 - -	766	1,487	580	9,429	697	200	147
1889 - -	938	431	451	10,220	2,255	280	273
1890 - -	614	850	597	15,955	642	300	1,460
Totals -	2,930	7,536	2,453	54,312	6,285	1,844	2,967
Average -	586	1,507	491	10,862	1,257	369	593

The increased export of cocoa, cotton and cotton seed, fruit and spices is worthy of notice, as there is no doubt that it is not transient, and that the current year, 1891, will yield even better results.

Shipping.

30. The number of vessels entered and cleared during the year was as follows:

	Entered.		Cleared.	
	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
Steamers - -	159	222,657	162	229,450
Sailing Vessels - -	382	10,745	373	11,176
Totals - -	541	233,402	535	240,626

31. The nationalities of the vessels entered were as below:—

	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.
British - - - - -	154	363
United States of America - - -	3	8
German - - - - -	1	—
Venezuelan - - - - -	1	7
Dutch - - - - -	—	4
	159	382

Prisons.

32. A comparative statement of the chief statistics relating to prisons for the last five years is subjoined:—

Year.	Number of Persons committed.				No. of those committed who have been previously convicted.	Daily Average in Prison.	Admissions to Hospital.	Daily average on Sick List.
	For Debt.	For safe Custody.	For penal Imprisonment.	Totals.				
1886 -	5	52	149	206	49	59·35	18	3·95
1887 -	3	54	205	262	63	62·73	21	1·62
1888 -	3	47	153	203	56	55·75	15	2·98
1889 -	3	53	244	300	89	64·22	18	3·51
1890 -	2	44	196	242	74	59·86	25	2·56

GRENADA (*Continued.*)

Year.	Deaths, excluding Executions.	Cost of Prisons.	Value of Work done by Prisoners.	Per-centage of Com-mittals of Persons previously convicted.	Cost of a Prisoner.		
					Annual.	Daily.	For Diet, per Day.
		£	£		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	d.
1886 -	2	1,299	1,110	32·88	22 0 3	0 1 2½	3¾
1887 -	—	1,224	1,318	30·73	19 10 1	0 1 1	3
1888 -	1	1,328	1,256	36·60	23 14 3	0 1 3½	3¼
1889 -	2	1,231	1,303	36·48	19 4 8	0 1 0¾	2¼
1890 -	1	1,160	1,304	38·27	19 6 7	0 1 1	2¼

33. On 1st July the Inspector of Prisons resigned that office consequent upon his appointment as Treasurer and Comptroller of Customs, and Mr. J. M. Lash, the keeper of the Richmond Hill prison, was placed in charge of the department, with the title of Superintendent of Prisons, the duties of which office include those formerly discharged by him. On 10th October a new code of rules, similar to those in force in English prisons, and embodying the various improvements in prison management and discipline that had been introduced here since 1885, was brought into operation.

Criminal Statistics.

34. The difference in 1890 from the average statistics of crime in the last four years is noted in the subjoined abstract:—

	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	Aver-age.	Difference in 1890 from Average.	
						In-crease.	De-crease.
Offences reported to police - - -	*1,727	594	649	666	*909	—	*243
Apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates - - -	*1,727	1,279	1,279	1,356	*1,369	—	*257
Summary convictions:—							
Offences against the person - - -	190	241	379	311	280	31	—
Prædial larceny - - - -	22	18	31	26	24	2	—
Other offences against property - -	149	150	209	182	173	9	—
Other offences - - - - -	454	468	342	317	395	—	78
Total summary convictions - -	815	877	961	836	872	—	36

* In the years previous to 1888 the number of offences reported to the police and the number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates were stated together, in subsequent returns they are given separately.

	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	Average.	Difference in 1890 from Average.	
						Increase.	Decrease.
Convictions in the superior courts:—							
Offences against the person	11	7	11	3	8	—	5
Prædial larceny	—	—	4	1	1	—	—
Other offences against property	14	13	12	13	13	—	—
Other offences	2	1	1	9	3	6	—
Total convictions in the superior courts	27	21	28	26	25	1	—
Persons acquitted:—							
In inferior courts	333	356	337	437	366	71	—
In superior courts	12	16	38	9	19	—	10
Total acquittals	345	372	375	446	385	61	—

35. This record, as the Attorney-General remarks in his report, "so far as figures go, compares favourably enough with previous "years," but he also points out that with respect to prædial larceny, under the head of cocoa and spice robbery, it is to some extent misleading, as by far the majority of such robberies are never detected and punished. Special legislation of a very stringent nature has since been resorted to with the view of coping with this evil.

Hospitals and Asylums.

36. The following table contains the principal statistics of the hospitals and asylums for the year:—

Institution.	No. of Admissions.	Daily Average.	Patients discharged.			Number Deaths.
			Cured.	Relieved.	Not improved.	
Colony Hospital	426	55·20	282	90	8	34
Yaws Hospital	102	36·30	134	—	—	1
St. Andrew's Hospital	76	7·	44	24	2	5
St. John's Hospital	111	8·17	75	21	4	11
Carriacou Hospital	115	5·70	108	7	3	—
Total hospitals	830	112·37	643	142	17	51
Lunatic Asylum	22	75·	13	5	—	4
Poor Asylum	27	48·	—	—	—	19
Totals	879	235·37	656	147	17	74

37. At the Colony Hospital the admissions were 66 more than in 1889, and the death rate 7·1 against 7·28. At the Yaws Hospital there was a decrease of 128 cases as compared with 1889, and the death rate was ·63 per cent.

38. The sanitary condition of the lunatic asylum was most satisfactory, the death rate (4·12 per cent.) being the lowest for many years. A copious water supply was laid on, and a scheme for the complete remodelling of the buildings, which will shortly be carried into effect, was elaborated.

39. The mortality at the Poor Asylum was very great, 19 deaths being recorded. Senile decay and diarrhœa caused one half of these.

Savings Bank.

40. The progress made by the savings bank is shown by the following return of its transactions for the last five years: —

Year.	Number of Depositors.	Amount of Deposits.	Amount of Withdrawals.	Balance at Credit of Depositors at 31st December.
		£	£	£
1886 - -	196	3,210	2,181	3,662
1887 - -	343	3,757	2,447	5,041
1888 - -	277	4,804	4,319	5,632
1889 - -	583	4,709	4,038	6,295
1890 - -	723	5,441	4,882	6,853

41. Early in 1889 four branch banks were opened in the out districts, and at the end of 1890 there were 136 depositors in them with a balance of 814*l.* to their credit. 4,000*l.* of the funds of the bank are invested in South Australian Government Stock.

General Remarks.

42. The statistics of the year point unmistakably to the steady progress and increasing prosperity of Grenada, which in the last six years has improved and advanced in almost every direction. With a population increasing at the rate of 25 per cent. in ten years, a large proportion of which owns land, with the liberal expenditure on roads and public works which has been the leading feature of the administration of recent years, and with the development of products other than cocoa and the opening up of a

new market in the United States of America, it is not unreasonable for those interested in this beautiful Colony to forecast for it a prosperous future, and in time to come a leading position in the West Indies.

(Signed) EDWARD DRAYTON,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Grenada,
8th August 1891.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

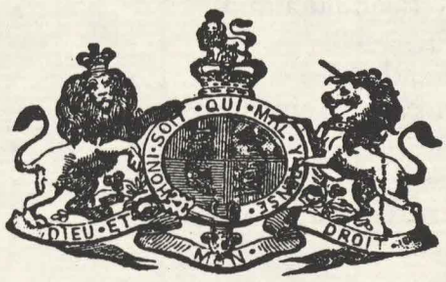
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BRITISH GUIANA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1890.

(In continuation of Colonial Report No. 106, Old Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.



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1892.

[C.—6563.–9.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

No.	Colony.	Year.
98	Turks and Caicos	1889
99	Gambia	,,
100	Straits Settlements	,,
101	St. Kitts-Nevis	1886
102	Basutoland (Governor's Visit)	1890
103	British New Guinea	1888–9
104	Natal	1889
105	Malta	,,
106	British Guiana	,,
107	Barbados	,,
109	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
109	Western Australia	,,
110	Gold Coast (Agriculture)	1890
111	Labuan	1889
112	Jamaica	,,
113	Falkland Islands	,,
114	Basutoland	1889–90
115	Sierra Leone	1889
116	Fiji	,,
117	Hong Kong	,,
118	St. Helena	,,

NEW SERIES OF COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

1	British Honduras	1889
2	Mauritius	,,
3	British Bechuanaland	1889–90
4	Victoria	1889
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8	Bermuda	,,
9	Leeward Islands	1889
10	St. Lucia	1890
11	Bahamas	,,
12	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
13	Gibraltar	,,
14	Zululand	,,
15	Sierra Leone	,,
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No. 25.

BRITISH GUIANA.

[In continuation of Colonial Report No. 106, Old Series.]

Lieut.-Governor SIR CHAS. BRUCE to LORD KNUTSFORD.

EXTRACT.

Government House, Georgetown, Demerara,
August 24, 1891.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith two copies of the Blue Book of British Guiana for the year 1890, together with a comprehensive report by Mr. Charles T. Cox, Assistant Government Secretary.

Politically the year 1890 will be marked in the history of the Colony by the introduction of a long-contemplated measure of political reform.

The different powers, executive and legislative, of the Colonial Government, will in future be exercised by the Governor, aided by an executive council, and by two bodies styled "the Court of Policy" and "the Combined Court." The executive and administrative powers will belong to the Governor and Executive Council; the power of ordinary legislation to the Governor and Court of Policy; the power to levy taxes and control the finances to the Governor and Combined Court. The Executive Council will consist of two *ex officio* members and two or more members nominated by the Crown; the Court of Policy of eight official and eight non-official members, the Combined Court of the Court of Policy with the addition of six non-official members called Financial Representatives. The non-official members of the Court of Policy and the Financial Representatives will be elected by direct open voting. The details of the system as regards the qualification of candidates and the electoral franchise are sufficiently shown in Mr. Cox's report.

Administratively the interest of the year 1890 was chiefly connected with the introduction of the machinery of civil government in the North-Western District of the Colony. The District was placed during the year in charge of a Government Agent, an officer whose appointment has been fashioned after the pattern of the Government Agencies in Ceylon. In area the North-Western District of British Guiana exceeds some important Colonies, while for the purposes of agriculture, forestry, and mining it gives promise of resources inferior, perhaps, to none.

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BRITISH GUIANA.

Industrially the year 1890 was chiefly remarkable for the active development of the gold industry, the reported yield as compared with the results of the preceding years being as follows:—

	oz.	£
1886	6,518	23,342
1887	11,906	44,427
1888	14,570	55,566
1889	29,327	109,234
1890	62,615	234,324

During the year diamonds of good quality were discovered in the Colony, and the search for these and other precious stones is being actively prosecuted.

There was a considerable falling off in the average price of sugar during the year, but by economy in management and the use of improved machinery and appliances the cost of production has been largely diminished. The fact that the area of land in sugar cultivation according to returns furnished up to the 30th June 1890 was in excess of the area of the previous year by nearly 1,000 acres seems to indicate a renewal of confidence in the staple industry of the Colony.

The activity of the export timber trade is shown by the following figures:—

Exports.	Cubic Feet.	Value.
		£
1888	193,541	13,597
1889	296,151	18,978
1890	332,098	23,771

As regards the general prosperity of the community the transactions of the Treasury and Post Office Savings Banks show satisfactory results. At the close of the year, the Treasury Savings Bank had 15,872 depositors with deposits amounting to 251,364*l.* as compared with 14,899 depositors who had 227,286*l.* standing to their credit at the close of 1889. The Post Office Savings Banks, first established during the year 1889, had, at the close of 1890, 110 depositors with deposits amounting to 5,872*l.*

REPORT on the Results shown in the BLUE BOOK of 1890.

TAXES, DUTIES, and other SOURCES OF REVENUE.

1. *Duties of Customs.*—At the session of the Combined Court held in March 1890, the customs tariff underwent thorough revision and many important alterations were made. The *ad*

valorem duties which had been for some years fixed at 7 per cent. were raised to 10 per cent. except with respect to the following goods the duty on which was retained at the old lower rate :— boots and shoes, hardware, cutlery and tools, stationery, linen, cotton and woollen goods, say, blankets, dress material, flannels, piece goods, prints, sheetings, shirts and shirtings, tablings, ticks, tweeds and underclothing.

(At the time of writing, however, this differential *ad valorem* duty does not exist, a uniform rate of eight per cent. having been levied instead from 1st April 1891.)

A specific duty was levied on the following goods which had hitherto paid duty *ad valorem* :—blue, cement, chloral hydrate, chloroform, collodion, corks, dynamite, gun cotton, lithofractive and all other explosive substances except gunpowder, flavouring essences, ether, acetic and sulphuric, ethyl, iodide of; preserved fish in tins or bottles, garlic, gelatine, goats, gums, hair, honey, isinglass, meats, preserved, in tins, milk, preserved, pickles and sauces, saltpetre, perfumed soap and soap powders, spices, starch, tallow, anti friction grease, &c.; twine, vinegar, vegetables, wax, beeswax, parafine and mineral oil, whitening, yeast cakes and compressed yeast.

The duty on pistols and revolvers was reduced from $10 to $5.

Lime was taken out of the schedule of exemptions and made to pay a specific duty.

The exemptions from duty were extended to machinery for factories of whatever kind, and articles imported for the use of the pilot service of the Colony.

2. *Licenses.*—The alterations in the license duties were few, the two principal being an increase of the banking house license to 208*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*, and the imposition of a license duty on the insurance companies of 52*l.* 1*s.* 8*d.* The classification of the retail spirit licenses was revised with a view to a more equitable arrangement of the quantities which may be sold by the various classes, and a 17th class was added to the 16 already existing. The duty on rum payable by licensed retail spirit dealers was raised to 3*s.* 6½*d.*, being an increase of 5*d.*

3. *Stamp Duties.*—There were only a few minor alterations in the existing stamp duties, the chief one being the omission of the clause exempting persons duly admitted to practice in Great Britain or Ireland from the duty of 20*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.*, payable by a barrister-at-law, advocate or attorney-at-law upon his admission to practice in this Colony.

Further stamp duties were levied on documents of various descriptions, and on legacies, successions and testaments, the latter being on the lines of the well-known "death duties" in England. These new duties were estimated to yield a considerable revenue, and were to be levied from a date to be fixed as soon as an Ordinance regulating their collection could be passed. A Bill to accomplish this was read a first time on the 3rd June and a second time on the 31st July, but the further progress of the Bill was postponed at the unanimous request of the elective section of the

Court of Policy, and at the time of writing it has been withdrawn, the Combined Court having recalled its decision to levy these stamp duties.

Revenue and Expenditure.

4. The revenue and expenditure for the year ended 31st March 1890, amounted respectively to 522,767*l.* and 508,108*l.*

Owing to the recent change in the financial year it is impracticable to give the usual detailed comparison of these figures with the revenue and expenditure of the previous 12 months, inasmuch as the Colony's accounts were made up for a period of 15 months ended on the 31st March 1889. For that period the revenue and expenditure were respectively 580,762*l.* and 605,535*l.* It may be said, however, that in 1890 all the principal heads of revenue such as import duties, wines and spirits duties, rum duties and retail spirit licenses, gold industry, &c., exhibit a considerable increase, while there was a small decrease under the heads wood-cutting and other licenses, establishments under government, and taxes fixed by law.

There is nothing under the various heads of expenditure which calls for special comment.

Local Revenues.

5. *Georgetown.*—The municipal revenue and expenditure for the year were respectively 48,771*l.*, and 51,194*l.*, both being in excess of the revenue and expenditure of 1889 when the amounts were 47,609*l.* and 49,249*l.* The house tax remained at the rate of 2 per cent. on appraised value, and supplied 27,495*l.* towards the revenue while the Government grant was 2,083*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*

6. *New Amsterdam.*—The municipal revenue and expenditure for the year were respectively 8,075*l.* and 8,059*l.*, being a decrease in both revenue and expenditure of respectively 878*l.* and 559*l.* compared with the previous year. There was no change in the town taxes.

7. *Villages.*—Nineteen incorporated villages were rated at a uniform rate of 2 per cent. on house and landed property, and the revenue derived therefrom amounted to 3,752*l.*, being more than in 1889, when the revenue was 3,375*l.*

The expenditure on 18 villages for 12 months ended 31st March 1891, amounted to 3,975*l.*, of which 2,355*l.* was spent on drainage, roads, dams, and bridges. The total expenditure in the previous year was 7,528*l.*

The liabilities of the villages on 31st December 1890 in respect of the Government loan amounted to 16,122*l.* compared with 16,342*l.* on 31st December 1888.

Public Debt.

8. Bonds to the extent of 50,000*l.* were issued on the 1st July being the third issue under Ordinance 14 of 1887, which autho-

rises the raising of 520,333*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* for public purposes, and bonds to the extent of 5,000*l.* issued under Ordinance 6 of 1879, matured. The total amount raised under the former Ordinance is now 168,600*l.* The public debt of the Colony for which the general revenue is directly pledged stood on the 31st December 1890, at 605,300*l.*

Immigration bonds to the extent of 120,000*l.* issued under Ordinance 24 of 1864, matured during the year, and a fresh issue to the extent of 112,000*l.* took place.

The sinking fund has been further increased by 14,607*l.*, and on the 31st December stood at 78,752*l.*, being full provision to that date for the redemption of bonds in terms of the various Ordinances.

The loans guaranteed by the general revenue appear as follows at the close of the year:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
For immigration - - - -	112,000	0	0
To city of Georgetown - -	4,035	13	6½
To town of New Amsterdam - -	694	8	9½
To Commissioners of Vlissengen -	47,916	13	4
Total guaranteed loans - -	164,646	15	8
Amount for which general revenue is directly pledged - - - - -	605,300	0	0
Grand total, 1890 - -	769,946	15	8
„ 1889 - -	737,399	2	6½
Increase - - -	32,547	13	1½

MILITARY EXPENDITURE.

9. The expenditure of the Colony for military purposes was as follows:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Imperial troops - - - -	797	0	0
Georgetown militia - - - -	1,423	0	0
British Guiana Volunteer Force - -	187	0	0
	2,407	0	0
The Imperial expenditure was - -	6,321	0	0
Total - - -	8,728	0	0

or 349*l.* less than in the preceding year.

BRITISH GUIANA.

PUBLIC WORKS.

10. The expenditure on public works for the 12 months ended 31st March 1891, defrayed from current revenue, was 32,649*l.*, being 3,557*l.* less than the expenditure during the preceding year. The principal items were for roads, rural improvements, and the upkeep of sea defences and public institutions. Of the new works chargeable to loan account, and entailing an expenditure of 23,828*l.*, the chief were a new alms-house in Berbice, an iron bridge over the Canje Creek, a new stelling at the Island of Leguan and public buildings in the North-Western District.

LEGISLATION.

11. Twenty-nine Ordinances were passed during the year. They are as follows:—

No. 1.—To regulate the manufacture of bitters, cordials and other compounds containing spirits.

The manufacture of bitters, &c., having been undertaken by one or two private firms in Georgetown it became necessary to place the business on a recognised and legal footing.

No. 2.—For the regulation and management of the fresh water canal from the Lamaha Creek to the City of Georgetown.

No. 3.—To provide for the appointment of a deputy harbour-master for the harbour of Georgetown.

No. 4.—To incorporate a Chamber of Commerce for the City of Georgetown.

The functions of a Chamber of Commerce had hitherto been partially exercised by a Committee of the Royal Agricultural and Commercial Society, but since its incorporation the usefulness of the Chamber has been much enhanced.

No. 5.—To amend Ordinance No. 6 of 1888, by increasing the duty on rum.

No. 6.—To impose certain taxes for the public use of the Colony during the financial year, 1890–91, and to make provision for the collection of the said taxes.

No. 7.—To fix a tariff of duties on goods imported into this Colony during the financial year 1890–91.

No. 8.—To provide for the recovery of certain arrears of road dues owing to this Colony.

No. 9.—To amend the Georgetown Town Council Ordinance, 1860, in respect of the collection of town taxes.

No. 10.—To provide for the construction and maintenance of sea defences and for the drainage of a certain district lying on the eastern sea coast of the county of Berbice.

This Ordinance places the sea defences of the district in the hands of Commissioners elected by proprietors interested in the schemes.

No. 11.—To amend the Public Health Ordinance, 1878, in respect of the mode of recovery of certain rates levied under the said Ordinance.

No. 12.—To authorise a loan of 80,000 dollars to the East Demerara Water Supply Commissioners, and to provide for the repayment of the same.

No. 13.—To amend the law relating to licenses for the sale of wine, malt liquor, and spirituous liquors in respect of the sale of articles other than wine, malt liquor, and spirituous liquors in licensed retail spirit shops situate in the City of Georgetown and the town of New Amsterdam.

This is a short Ordinance sanctioning the sale of tobacco in spirit shops.

No. 14.—To amend the law relating to the rescue and release of strays.

No. 15.—To provide for the supply of fresh water to a certain district lying between the Canje Creek and the Corentyne Coast in the county of Berbice.

This Ordinance vests the work in commissioners and is on the basis of the East Coast Demerara Water Supply Ordinances.

No. 16.—To repeal the schedule to the Demerara West Coast Sea Defence Ordinance, 1887, and to substitute another schedule instead thereof, and to amend the said Ordinance in another respect.

No. 17.—To incorporate the Chemists and Druggists' Association.

No. 18.—To enable Dr. John Monteith Rohlehr to be registered as a medical practitioner in this Colony.

No. 19.—To extend the jurisdiction of stipendiary magistrates in civil cases.

This Ordinance extended the civil jurisdiction of magistrates from cases involving 5*l.* to those involving 20*l.*

No. 20.—To make provision for the better government of the North-Western portion of the Colony.

A Government agency was established by this Ordinance in the North-Western portion of the Colony, and the Government Agent there is the deputy of the heads of those departments of Government which are interested in the district.

No. 21.—For taking a census of the Colony.

No. 22.—To incorporate the Institute of Mines and Forests of British Guiana.

A body of gentlemen interested in the gold industry formed themselves into a society for the purpose of incorporation and their efforts have proved of benefit to the industry in many ways.

No. 23.—To make provision for the introduction into this Colony of immigrants from places other than countries in Asia, and for other purposes relating thereto.

This Ordinance was the outcome of a Commission appointed by the Governor during the year to consider the question of importing a further supply of labour. Barbados is the only place at which an agency has yet been established.

No. 24.—To consolidate and amend the laws relating to the manufacture, storage, conveyance and sale of spirits.

This is an important Ordinance which had long been under the consideration of those most concerned in the manufacture of spirits and in the collection of revenue therefrom. Its details have been thoroughly discussed and it is expected to prove of benefit not only to the revenue but to the distiller.

No. 25.—To amend the Demerara East Coast Sea Defence Ordinance, 1888.

No. 26.—To amend Ordinance No. 5 of 1867, entitled "An Ordinance to make effectual provision against Sunday Trading."

No. 27.—To amend the Amended Manner of Proceeding Ordinance, 1885, in respect of property taken in execution.

No. 28.—To provide for the maintenance during a certain term of years of the Civil List Establishment of this Colony.

No. 29.—To facilitate and regulate the supply of electricity for lighting and other purposes.

PROCLAMATIONS.

12. These relate for the most part to the routine business of the Colony and do not call for special remark.

POLITICAL FRANCHISE.

13. The long expected change in the political constitution of the Colony took shape in a Bill entitled "An Ordinance to alter and amend the Political Constitution of this Colony," which was read a first time on the 27th of November, a few days before the opening of the special session of the Combined Court which had been summoned for the purpose of considering the renewal of the civil list coincidently with the reform of the Constitution. As the Bill did not become law during the year, it can scarcely be said to belong to the history of 1890, but as its principles are so important, and as these were confirmed by a second reading during the year, a short description of them may be permitted.

The principal features of the new Constitution may be stated thus:—

The functions and powers of the Court of Policy and Combined Court will be unchanged, except that the administrative functions

of the Court of Policy will be transferred to an executive council so soon as that council may be established, whereupon the duties of the former will become purely legislative, and it will be freed from the consideration of many trivial and routine matters which have hitherto engaged a large share of its attention.

The Combined Court will retain its two-fold power of (1) imposing the Colonial taxes and auditing the public accounts; and (2) discussing freely and without reserve the items on the annual estimates prepared by the Court of Policy. The first of these powers is the birthright of the Combined Court, having been bestowed in 1796, when Governor Beaujon called the financial representatives into being "with a right of voting only for the raising of colonial taxes and not further," while the second is conferred periodically by Her Majesty's Order in Council after each renewal of the Civil List and is co-existent with the Civil List.

The Court of Policy, which has hitherto consisted of the Governor, four official members and five elected members, will, under the new Constitution, consist of the Governor, seven official members, and eight elected members. The number of the financial representatives, who with the Court of Policy form the Combined Court, remains unchanged.

The qualification for membership of the Court of Policy which hitherto was restricted to ownership of 80 acres of land, 40 of which had to be under cultivation, will be extended to ownership of immoveable property of the value of not less than 1,562*l.* 10*s.* or of a house, or house and land, of the annual rental or value of 250*l.*

The qualification for election as a financial representative will be the same as that for membership of the Court of Policy, with the further qualification of clear annual income of 300*l.* arising from any kind of property not mentioned in any other property qualification, or from any profession, business, or trade carried on in the Colony.

The College of Electors, which has hitherto elected members of the Court of Policy, will be abolished, and members will thenceforth be elected by the direct vote of the people.

The franchise has been slightly lowered as regards the income qualification and extended as regards the property qualification, and will, under the new Constitution, be as follows:—

For a Country Voter.

(1.) Ownership, during the six months previous to registration, under a title by grant from the Crown, transport, letters of decree, inheritance *ab intestato vel ex testamento*, devise, or marriage, or possession under a license of occupancy from the Crown, of not less than three acres of land actually and *bonâ fide* under cultivation; or

(2.) Ownership, during the six months previous to registration, under any such title as aforesaid, of a house, or of a house and land, of the annual rental or value of not less than 20*l.*; or

(3.) Occupation or tenancy, during the six months previous to registration, of not less than six acres of land actually and *bonâ fide* under cultivation, secured by lease or any document in writing for three years or upwards, such lease or document being deposited or recorded in the registrar's office of the county in which such land is situate; or

(4.) Occupation or tenancy, during the six months previous to registration, of a house, or of a house and land, of the annual rental or value of not less than 40*l.* secured by lease or any document in writing for one year or upwards, deposited or recorded as aforesaid; or

(5.) Possession or enjoyment of an annual income or salary of not less than 100*l.*, coupled with residence in the district or division, such possession or enjoyment and residence having subsisted during the six months previous to registration; or

(6.) Payment, during the 12 months previous to registration of direct taxes to the Colonial revenue of 4*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.* or upwards, coupled with residence in the district or division during the six months previous to registration: provided that no license duty of any kind shall be deemed to be within the meaning of the term "direct taxes."

For a City Voter.

(1.) Ownership, during the six months previous to registration, under a title by grant from the Crown, transport, letters of decree, inheritance *ab intestato vel ex testamento*, devise, or marriage, of a house, or of a house and premises, of the value of not less than 104*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.* as appraised for local taxation; or

(2.) Occupation or tenancy, during the six months previous to registration, of a house, or of a house and premises, of the annual rental or value of not less than 25*l.*, secured by lease or any document in writing for one year or upwards, such lease or document being deposited or recorded in the registrar's office of the county in which the city or town is situate; or

(3.) Possession or enjoyment of an annual income or salary of not less than 100*l.*, coupled with residence in the district, such possession of enjoyment and residence having subsisted during the six months previous to registration; or

(4.) Payment, during the 12 months previous to registration, of direct taxes to the Colonial revenue of 4*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.* or upwards, coupled with residence in the district during the six months previous to registration: provided that no license duty of any kind shall be deemed to be within the meaning of the term "direct taxes."

Aliens who had hitherto acquired the political rights of citizenship after three years' residence will in future be debarred from such rights while they remain aliens.

14. Advantage has also been taken of the opportunity to give legislative sanction to many minor matters of procedure which were either unprovided for or depended for their authority on custom.

15. A direct result of the revival of interest in the political constitution of the Colony has been the addition to the list of registered voters of 377 names, the majority of whom must have possessed the necessary qualification before, but not sufficient interest in political matters to register themselves as voters. At the close of the year, there were 1,973 voters as against 1,596 at the close of 1889.

16. *Councils and Assemblies.*—The Court of Policy sat at the usual intervals during the year.

The Combined Court met in March to vote the supplies and raise the colonial taxes for the year 1890-91, and a special session of the court was summoned in December for the purpose of considering the renewal of the Civil List which was about to expire. The court renewed the Civil List for seven years from the 1st January, 1891, and enlarged it by the addition of several heads of departments whose salaries had previously been voted annually. The following officers are now borne on it :—

	£	s.	d.
The Governor - - -	5,000	0	0
Contingencies - - -	1,000	0	0
The Government Secretary and Secretary to the Court of Policy and the Combined Court -	1,500	0	0
The Assistant Government Secretary and Clerk to the Court of Policy and the Combined court - - -	700	0	0
Clerks and expenses at the offices of the Court of Policy and the Government Secretary	833	6	8
The Attorney General - -	1,500	0	0
The Solicitor General - -	500	0	0
The Auditor General - -	1,000	0	0
The Receiver General - -	1,000	0	0
The Comptroller of Customs -	1,000	0	0
The Chief Commissary - -	800	0	0
The Inspector General of Police -	750	0	0
The Colonial Civil Engineer -	1,000	0	0
The Surgeon General - -	1,200	0	0
The Crown Surveyor - -	800	0	0
The Postmaster General - -	700	0	0
Stipendiary magistrates - -	8,400	0	0

During the absence of Sir Charles Bruce, K.C.M.G., from 13th March to 3rd September, Mr. Charles Piercy Austin sat as official member of the Court.

CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT.

17. *Deaths.*—Nine public officers receiving salaries of over 100*l.* a year died during the year, viz. :—

Mr. G. J. A. Bosch Reitz -	Registrar's Office, aged 26 years.
Mr. D. Cameron - -	Customs, aged 24 years.
Mr. M. Taylor - -	Provost Marshal's Office, aged 62 years.
Dr. R. M. Freeman -	Govt. Medical Officer, aged 41 years.
Mr. Hussanally - -	Interpreter, aged 34 years.
Mr. H. C. Van Genderen -	Customs, aged 50 years.
Mr. E. F. Chubb -	Provost Marshal's Office, aged 42 years.
Mr. G. E. P. Davis -	Customs, aged 54 years.
Mr. G. C. Choppin -	Government Land Department, aged 28 years.

An unusually heavy death roll ; made yet more sad by the early age of so many. Since the close of the year the Colony has also had to regret the death of Mr. Lionel Payne Gallwey, Colonial Civil Engineer.

APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS, &C.

18. There were comparatively few changes during the year.

His Excellency Viscount Gormanston, K.C.M.G., was absent from the Colony for seven days from 28th August, when the Honourable Francis Villiers, C.M.G., administered the Government.

The Honourable Sir Charles Bruce, K.C.M.G., Lieut.-Governor and Government Secretary, was absent on leave from the 13th March to 3rd September. Mr. Villiers acted as Government Secretary while Mr. Chas. Piercy Austin, Colonial Receiver General, occupied the vacant official seat in the Court of Policy.

The Venerable Archdeacon Austin, Rector of St. George's, retired on pension, and was succeeded in the Archdeaconry of Demerara by the Venerable Archdeacon Farrar, and as Rector of St. George's by the very Rev. Dean May.

The Inspector of Schools, the Rev. W. G. G. Austin, retired on pension. He was succeeded by Mr. William Blair, of Ceylon.

Mr. C. L. Payne and Mr. E. R. Anson, were appointed stipendiary magistrates.

Mr. im Thurn, M.A., the stipendiary magistrate of the Pomeroon, was appointed to the newly-created Government Agency in the North-Western District.

Mr. Henry Kirke, M.A., police magistrate of Georgetown, was absent during the greater part of the year acting as Attorney General of Jamaica.

Security.

19. At the annual inspection of securities it was found that 153 officers had given security for the due discharge of their duties, in sums ranging from 50*l.* to 2,084*l.*

Only four officers remained of those who, prior to the establishment of the Public Officers' Guarantee Fund, executed the usual security bonds, and who consequently do not subscribe to the fund.

20. The receipts of the fund for the year ended 30th September 1890 were 448*l.*, and the total amount at credit on that date was 3,596*l.* The sums guaranteed by the fund amounted at the close of that period to 55,716*l.*

Pensions.

21. The pension list of 1890 contains the names of 53 pensioners, a decrease of four from the previous year.

The actual changes consisted of an addition of seven pensioners, with pensions aggregating 1,481*l.*, less 11 pensioners who died and whose pensions aggregated 2,052*l.*

Public Officers' Widows' and Orphans' Fund.

22. This fund is formed from abatements of 4 per cent. from the salaries of all public officers receiving 100*l.* a year and upwards, and from interest on moneys invested. The receipts in 1890 amounted to 9,742*l.*, and the pensions paid to 9,320*l.* The capital of the fund on 31st December 1890 was 60,411*l.* There were 122 pensioners on the fund at the close of the year, 16 having been added during the year and 13 having lapsed through death, remarriage, or coming of age. There were 421 contributors to the fund on the 31st December, of whom 274 were married. The fund has been in existence for 18 years, and its condition was recently investigated by an actuary whose report is at present under the consideration of the Governor and Court of Policy. The report shows that the fund will not be able to meets its liabilities at the present rate of subscription, and suggestions have been made for placing it upon a proper basis.

Population.

23. The population of the Colony is estimated to have increased from 282,066 on 31st December 1889 to 282,103 on 31st December 1890.

There was an excess of immigration over emigration of 2,541 East Indian labourers, and an excess of deaths over births of 2,504. The actual figures shown by the census of April, 1891, are 284,887.

IMMIGRATION.

24. The immigration into the Colony from Calcutta during the year consisted of 4,574 souls, equal to 3,845 statute adults, about one-fourth more than the number introduced in 1889.

1,925 statute adults returned to India after serving their terms of indenture, being 126 in excess of those who returned in 1889. They took with them savings amounting to 24,501*l.* in money, and 5,208*l.* in jewellery, as against 19,463*l.* and 3,895*l.* respectively in 1889.

The amount remitted by immigrants in the Colony to their relatives and friends in India continues to increase year by year, having risen from 1,557*l.* in 1886 to 5,192*l.* in 1890.

The total Indian immigrant population of the Colony on 31st December 1890, was estimated at 107,424, or 1,188 more than on the same date in the previous year. Of these 72,826 were resident on the plantations, 15,567 being indentured, 39,320 unindentured, and 17,939 children.

At the close of the year a sum of 117,831*l.* stood at the credit of Indian immigrant depositors in the Government Savings Banks; the corresponding sum in the preceding year being 106,796*l.*

25. Owing to the exertions of district officers in India and the agencies at Calcutta and in this Colony an elaborate but effective system has grown up of seeking out the heirs in India of immigrants who may die in this Colony and remitting to them any money which may remain at credit of the estate of the deceased. The amount so remitted in 1889 was 2,218*l.* Towards the end of the year an agency was opened in Barbados for procuring labourers for this Colony. The Immigration Agent General writes that Mr. Crawford, the Agent, "was unable to recruit any "large number of immigrants, but it is satisfactory to record that "those that were obtained by him proved to be useful labourers, "and many of them remained in the Colony after the termination "of their contract."

EDUCATION.

26. *Queen's College.*—Ninety students were in this Institution on 31st December 1890, an increase of 11 on the previous year. At the Cambridge Local Examination held in December 1890, seven students were placed in honour classes, and the Guiana Scholarship was awarded to one of these, who obtained first-class senior honours with distinction in two subjects.

27. *Elementary Schools.*—Government aid, amounting to 25,480*l.*, was granted to 177 schools, an increase of 14 schools over the previous year. Their distribution remained much the same, 28 being in Georgetown, six in New Amsterdam, and the remainder scattered through the country districts. The number of scholars on the books was 26,734, and the average attendance was 16,706.

SCHOOL FOR VAGRANT BOYS AND YOUTHFUL MALE OFFENDERS.

28. There were 151 boys in the school at the close of the year, four more than in 1889. The boys are chiefly employed in agricultural labour, but an effort is being made to give them more training in trades.

REFORMATORY FOR GIRLS.

29. At the close of the year there were 21 inmates in this institution which was opened on 2nd July 1888. Some of the girls discharged have been provided with situations in domestic service.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

30. *Value of Imports.*—The imports of 1890 were valued at 1,887,118*l.*, showing an increase of 83,342*l.* compared with the imports of 1889.

Articles of Food.—The following comparative statement shows the principal articles of food imported during 1889 and 1890:—

Statement of the Principal Articles of Food imported during the Years 1889 *and* 1890.

	1889.		1890.		Quantity, 1890.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Increase.	Decrease.
		£		£		
Beef, pickled, brls. -	10,336	24,209	8,026	14,573	—	2,310
Bread, lbs. - -	236,614	3,527	355,670	5,297	119,056	—
Butter, lbs. - -	516,327	18,869	638,194	22,860	121,867	—
Corn and pulse, bush. -	137,395	25,627	164,427	32,701	27,032	—
Oat and cornmeal, lbs. -	1,272,872	4,073	1,247,974	4,168	—	24,898
Fish, dried, quint. -	80,371	62,047	71,428	68,090	—	8,943
Flour, brls. - -	165,939	136,899	160,465	134,971	—	5,474
Lard, lbs. - - -	594,447	8,943	417,219	5,701	—	177,228
Onions, lbs. - -	2,391,266	6,086	1,907,807	4,659	—	483,459
Pork, brls. - - -	22,462	56,889	19,771	43,307	—	2,691
Rice, lbs. - - -	46,930,392	192,065	38,016,260	130,661	—	8,914,132

31. *Value of Exports.*—The value of the exports in 1890 was 2,161,792*l.*, being 309,408*l.* more than in 1889, and over 7*l.* per head of the population.

BRITISH GUIANA.

The following is a comparative statement of the value of exports in the years 1889 and 1890 :—

Comparative Statement of the Value of Exports in the Years 1889 *and* 1890, *showing the Increase or Decrease in* 1890 *in each Item of Export.*

Articles.	Value.		Increase in 1890.	Decrease in 1890.
	1889.	1890.		
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Sugar	1,914 143 19 9	1,437,217 12 6½	—	476,926 7 2½
Rum	165,584 0 6½	220,835 8 5	55,251 7 10½	—
Molasses	66,020 6 9	78,783 12 6	12,763 5 9	—
Gold	109,234 7 8½	234,324 18 10	125,090 11 1½	—
Timber	18,978 11 10½	23,771 15 4	4,793 3 5½	—
Charcoal	7,185 8 10	8,418 9 6	1,233 0 8	—
Gum, Balata	15,651 19 11½	10,078 11 10½	—	5,573 8 0
„ other	274 16 2½	227 12 4½	—	47 3 10
Shingles	2,574 12 3½	1,121 1 2	—	1,453 11 1½
Hides	3,164 11 8	3,216 15 5	52 3 9	—
Cocoanuts	420 12 5	519 19 6	99 7 1	—
Bird skins and feathers	100 0 0	—	—	100 0 0
Plants	71 9 0	81 6 0	9 17 0	—
Cocoa	129 13 9	507 0 2	377 6 5	—
Isinglass	313 19 6	225 3 5	—	88 16 1
Cattle and live stock	1,161 7 7	703 6 8	—	458 0 11
Bread—biscuits, &c.	1,192 18 2½	455 15 4	—	737 2 10½
Cassava starch	478 6 8	235 11 5	—	242 15 3
Firewood	196 14 5½	122 13 7	—	74 0 10½
Fibre	87 9 1	209 18 11½	122 9 10½	—
Arrowroot	95 4 2	28 2 6	—	67 1 8
Plantains and plantain suckers	189 5 0	60 14 2	—	128 10 10
Corn and pulse	514 3 1	10 0 0	—	504 3 1
Coffee	1 13 4	38 12 0	36 18 8	—
Miscellaneous	2,375 8 9½	2,107 6 5	—	268 2 4½
Total Colonial produce	2,310,141 0 7½	2,023,301 8 1	199,829 11 8	486,669 4 2½
Total foreign produce	161,058 15 5½	138,490 8 1	—	—
Total exports	2,471,199 16 1	2,161,791 16 2	—	—
Net decrease Colonial produce in 1889	—	—	—	286,839 12 6½
Net decrease foreign produce in 1889	—	—	—	22,568 7 4½
	2,471,199 16 1	2,161,791 16 2	—	309,407 19 11

32. *Direction of Trade.*—The following comparative statement shows the direction and value of the trade of the Colony in 1889 and 1890:—

Countries.	Imports.		Exports.	
	1889.	1890.	1889.	1890.
	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	1,051,018	1,129,071	1,317,251	958,873
United States	461,471	379,369	882,806	950,602
British North America	56,336	62,370	42,180	42,095
British West Indies	67,733	67,508	59,953	42,523
Bermuda	77	1	3,921	2,515
India	171,399	131,076	1,102	113
Foreign countries other than United States	55,226	93,922	163,987	164,252
African Possessions	516	—	—	8
Newfoundland	—	23,797	—	805
British Honduras	—	—	—	1
Total	1,803,776	1,887,114	2,471,200	2,161,787

33. The following figures show proportion of the export trade which goes to the United Kingdom and the United States respectively. The variation in favour of the former observable in 1889 has not been maintained, notwithstanding the fact that all the gold produced is sent to the United Kingdom.

———	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.
United Kingdom, per cent. of total exports	71·	58·	52·	49·	53·	44·
United States, per cent. of total exports	17·	30·	39·	38·	35·	43·

SHIPPING, 1890.

34. *Vessels.*—The number of vessels entered and cleared at the ports of the Colony, during the year 1890 was as follows:—

———	Ports.	Entered.			Cleared.		
		No.	Tons.	Crews.	No.	Tons.	Crews.
Steam vessels.	Georgetown	208	170,507	7,676	208	171,045	7,704
	New Amsterdam	7	5,765	169	20	17,201	496
	North Western District	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Total	215	176,272	7,845	228	188,255	8,200

—	Ports.	Entered.			Cleared.		
		No.	Tons.	Crews.	No.	Tons.	Crews.
Sailing vessels.	Georgetown - - -	635	150,973	5,423	656	157,923	5,624
	New Amsterdam - -	31	6,868	211	25	6,238	177
	North Western District -	12	46	39	12	46	39
	Total - -	678	157,887	5,673	693	164,207	5,840
	Total steam and sailing vessels - - -	893	334,159	13,518	921	352,462	14,040

The following comparative table shows a slight increase in the total tonnage although the number of vessels is about the same :—

—	Vessels.	1889.		1890.		Increase, 1890.		Decrease, 1890.	
		No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Entered.	Steam vessels - -	197	154,852	215	176,272	18	21,420	—	—
	Sailing do. - -	719	169,450	678	157,887	—	—	41	11,563
	Totals - -	916	324,302	893	334,159	—	9,857	23	—
Cleared.	Steam vessels - -	207	162,736	228	188,255	21	25,519	—	—
	Sailing do. - -	689	156,369	693	164,207	4	7,838	—	—
	Totals - -	896	319,105	921	352,462	25	33,357	—	—

AGRICULTURE.

35. *Sugar Industry.*—The area of land in sugar cultivation according to returns furnished up to 30th June 1890 was 79,243 acres, being an increase of 972 acres over the previous year.

The value of sugar fell considerably during the year the average price for vacuum pan sugar being 12*l.* 11*s.* 8*d.* per ton as against 15*l.* 3*s.* 5*d.* in 1889.

The exports during the year were :—

——	——	Value.
		£
Sugar - - - -	117,204 hhds.	1,437,217
Rum - - - -	20,495 puns.	220,835
Molasses - - - -	23,115 casks	78,783

The quantities and value of these exports during 1889 are given for comparison :—

			Value.
			£
Sugar	- - - -	128,430 hhds.	1,914,143
Rum	- - - -	18,093 puns.	165,584
Molasses	- - - -	22,782 casks	66,020

36. *Minor Industries.*—As shown by the table given in paragraph 31 there has been an increase in the export of timber, charcoal, and cocoa, but a falling off in many other exports, of which ballata is the most prominent and important. The ballata industry has hitherto been restricted to the forests of the Berbice and Corentyne Rivers, and as these are becoming temporarily exhausted, collectors are turning their attention to the rivers of Demerara and Essequebo.

There has been a general increase in the price of market articles, especially vegetables. Plantains, which form the staple food of the labouring classes, rose from a maximum price of 1*s.* 2*d.* per bunch in 1889 to a maximum 2*s.* 6*d.* in 1890 ; a result scarcely to be wondered at when the returns from sugar estates show that of the 4,261 acres which were in plantain cultivation at the close of 1889 on sugar estates only 1,643 remained at the close of 1890, and it is probable that a similar reduction took place in the cultivation of most of the little plantain estates from which no statistics are available. Acres upon acres of plantains and ground provisions are stated to have been ruined during the heavy rains.

37. The weather was also unfavourable to the sugar planters. The President of the Royal Agricultural and Commercial Society writes :—" The sugar crop was considerably under 1889, due to " the continuous wet weather that prevailed from November 1889, " to July 1890, which specially affected the stiff clay lands on the " East and West Bank Demerara River, West Coast, Essequebo " Islands, and more or less the whole counties of Demerara and " Essequebo. In Berbice the rainfall was not so heavy and the " crops were up to the average."

MANUFACTURES AND MINES.

38. The rapid advance of the gold industry has been maintained and again has the yield been double that of the preceding year. The actual figures are :—

Year.		Value.
	Oz.	£
1888 - - - -	14,570	55,566
1889 - - - -	29,327	109,234
1890 - - -	62,615	234,324

The whole of this has come from placers, and quartz mining has not yet commenced.

The services of a gentleman of experience in mining affairs of other countries, Mr. W. Wynn Kenrick, have been obtained as gold commissioner.

There are no new manufactures to record.

GRANTS OF LAND.

39. The number of grants of land issued in 1890 for wood-cutting and cultivation was 23, against 52 in 1889. No falling off in the timber trade, however, is to be inferred from this reduction, as the export of timber was in excess of that of the previous year. The exports are :—

Year.	——	Valued at.
	Cubic Feet.	£
1888 - - - -	193,541	13,597
1889 - - - -	296,151	18,978
1890 - - - -	332,098	23,771

A considerable quantity of greenheart timber from this Colony is being used in the Manchester canal works.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

40. *Police Reports.*—There was a slight increase in these reports, the numbers being 11,041 compared with 9,731 in 1888.

Apprehensions and Summonses.—The statistics for the last three years are as follows :—

MAGISTRATES' COURTS.

——	1888.	1889.	1890.
Convicted - - - -	11,191	11,273	12,121
Discharged - - - -	6,454	7,311	8,715
Acquitted - - - -	5,292	5,008	4,415
Sent to higher courts - - -	397	435	271
Total - - -	23,334	24,027	25,522

41. *Convictions.*—In the Superior Courts the convictions numbered 196 as compared with 312 in 1889 and 329 in 1888.

Offences against the person, prædial larceny, and injuries to property, exhibit a decrease, while offences against property other than prædial larceny, offences against Masters and Servants' Acts, and miscellaneous offences, exhibit an increase.

The per-centage of the five following forms of punishment by magistrates to the total number punished is as follows:—

Punishment.	1889.	1890.
Fine - - - - - -	57·24	62·93
Peremptory imprisonment - - -	9·82	8·81
Imprisonment in lieu of fine or surety -	28·86	25·77
Whipping - - - - -	1·63	1·45
Bound over with or without sureties -	2·45	1·04

GAOLS AND PRISONERS.

42. The number of prisoners committed for the purpose of penal imprisonment was 3,363, and 1,544 were committed for safety till trial or for want of security.

The number of re-convictions were:—

———	Once.	Twice.	Thrice or more.
1889 - - -	590	199	59
1890 - - -	352	87	62

Credit for this remarkable reduction must be distributed between increased prosperity in the Colony generally, and the outlet afforded by the gold diggings. That the latter is no unimportant factor is evidenced by the history of other gold-bearing countries.

There were 1,104 admissions to prison hospital sand 20 deaths, as compared with 1,099 and 21 respectively in the year before. The daily average on the sick list was 24, or 3 less than in 1889.

Whipping was inflicted 8 times for offences within the prison, the number being the same as in 1889. The birch is chiefly used in the infliction of corporal punishment.

HOSPITALS.

43. *Admissions.*—There were 634 patients in the public hospital at Georgetown at the commencement of the year, an increase of 4 on the number at the same time of the year 1889. The number of patients admitted for treatment during the year was 7,932, as compared with 7,084 in the preceding year.

The admissions of patients to the public hospital at New Amsterdam were 2,378 as compared with 1,912 in 1889. At the com-

mencement of the year there were 120 patients in hospital compared with 109 at the commencement of 1889.

Forty-five patients were in the Suddie Hospital at the commencement of the year, and 886 were admitted, as compared with 786 in the previous year; while in the free hospital at Massaruni there were two patients on the 1st January and 225 admissions during the year, an increase of 104 as compared with the previous year.

44. *Out-patients.*—40,341 out-patients, an increase of 2,259 on the previous year, were treated at the public hospital in Georgetown; 6,935 as compared with 6,276 at the hospital at New Amsterdam; 4,108 at Suddie; and 954 at Massaruni.

45. *Discharges.*—The number of patients discharged was as follows:—

	Georgetown.	New Amsterdam.	Suddie.	Massaruni.
Cured - - -	2,742	797	497	120
Relieved - - -	3,449	988	86	50
Not improved - -	461	593	148	6
Total - -	6,652	2,378	731	176

46. *Deaths.*—There were 1,216 deaths in the hospital at Georgetown, as compared with 935 in 1889.

In the New Amsterdam Hospital there were 273 deaths as against 195 in 1889; in the Hospital, Essequebo 152, as against 90 in the previous year; and at Massaruni Hospital 45, as against 15 in 1889.

47. *Diseases.*—The following is a comparative table of the diseases treated at the four public hospitals and of the deaths from such diseases for the years 1889 and 1890:—

Diseases.	Georgetown.				New Amsterdam.			
	1889.		1890.		1889.		1890.	
	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.
Zymotic - -	794	23	2,274	417	803	46	889	51
Constitutional - -	1,646	349	5,547	731	77	32	116	56
Local - - -	3,523	524			950	90	998	155
Developmental - -	253	18	231	46	37	25	36	9
By violence, &c. - -	314	18	266	22	112	2	101	2
Other diseases - -	200	—	248	—	—	—	238	—
Total - -	6,730	932	8,566	1,216	1,912	195	2,378	273

continued.)

Diseases.	Suddie.				Massaruni.			
	1889.		1890.		1889.		1890.	
	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.
Zymotic - - -	315	18	404	35	58	9	144	30
Constitutional - -	77	23	100	27	2	—	3	2
Local - - - -	364	45	396	11	28	4	55	12
Developmental - -	50	4	21	10	10	2	5	1
By violence, &c. - -	22	—	10	1	23	—	18	—
Other diseases - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total - -	828	90	931	152	121	15	225	45

The cases treated in all the public hospitals amounted in the aggregate to 12,100 and the deaths to 1,686, showing a mortality of 13·93 per cent. of cases treated.

Lunatic Asylum.

48. *Admissions.*—The admissions during the year numbered 171 (104 males and 67 females). The daily average number was 638, an increase of 39 over 1889.

49. *Discharges.*—64 inmates were discharged as cured, and 1 as relieved.

50. *Deaths.*—There were 104 deaths during the year, (59 males and 45 females), an increase of 30 over 1889.

In 39 cases the patient suffered from Bright's disease.

51. *Form of Mental Disorder.*—The cases in the asylum at the close of the year were classified as follows :—

——	Males.	Females.
Maniacal and dangerous - - -	100	16
Quiet chronic - - - -	233	138
Melancholy and suicidal - - -	68	26
Idiotic, paralytic, and epileptic - -	26	28

Leper Asylum.

52. The accommodation for males consists of three two-storey buildings raised on brick pillars and 20 huts. The females occupy six one-storey buildings on pillars and one cottage.

BRITISH GUIANA.

At the close of the year there were at the asylum 344 inmates (270 males and 74 females); 63 males and 5 females were admitted during the year. 56 inmates died.

Steps are being taken to establish a leper community on one of the islands in the Essequebo River. A suitable island has been selected and acquired for public purposes, after a long and tedious legal process, and is now being cleared of bush and prepared for the erection of the necessary buildings.

SAVINGS BANKS AND FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.

53. The transactions of the Government Savings Banks continue to show a gratifying increase at all the branches. At the close of the year there were 15,872 depositors as compared with 14,899 the year before, and the amount standing to their credit was 251,364*l.* an increase of 24,078*l.*

The deposits and withdrawals amounted respectively to 174,126*l.* and 150,048*l.*, and the interest carried to the credit of depositors to 5,909*l.*

The funds of the banks are invested in Government securities, and on open loan to the Colony.

Post Office Savings Banks were established during 1889, by opening six branches at what were considered the most suitable district post offices, and this number was increased to nine during 1890. At the close of 1890 there were 110 depositors, 5,782*l.* stood at their credit, and the deposits and withdrawals during the year amounted respectively to 8,160*l.* and 2,955*l.*

It will thus be evident that the establishment of Post Office Savings Banks has in no way affected the business of the long established savings banks in connexion with the Treasury, but that the former, probably from their geographical position, have reached a separate and distinct class of depositors.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

54. Meteorological observations were taken throughout the year at the Botanic Gardens.

The total rainfall, like that of the previous year, was unusually high, and was the same within an inch; being, 122·68. The heaviest monthly fall was 25·11 inches in January, and the lowest ·02 inches in November.

POSTAL AND TELEGRAPH RETURNS.

55. The Postal Department consists of the General Post Office in Georgetown, 60 district post offices, and seven travelling post offices. Of the former 25 are money order offices, and nine are savings banks.

The number of letters, newpapers, &c. posted during the year is estimated at 1,532,462, an increase of 324,806 as compared with

1889. The money order business, both inland and foreign, increased, the amounts being: inland, 18,212*l.*, as against 16,275*l.*, and foreign, 53,777*l.*, as against 47,699*l.* The parcels post also was more largely used, the revenue and customs duties collected being respectively 273*l.*, and 697*l.*, as against 233*l.* and 459*l.* in the previous year.

56. *Telegraphs.*—The Government telegraph extends along the cultivated coast of the Colony for a distance of 260 miles and through the settlements on the banks of the rivers. There are 37 offices. There was an increase in the telegraph receipts during the year, the amount being 3,324*l.*, as against 2,276*l.* in 1889.

57. *Telephone.*—The telephone service was placed in a state of thorough efficiency during the year, and gives general satisfaction. It is under the charge of the postal department, and there are 200 subscribers; the rates of yearly subscription are 5*l.* for business premises and 2*l.* 10*s.* for private houses. The service is unbroken by day or night.

RAILWAYS, CANALS, AND ROADS.

58. *Railway.*—There was no extension during the year of the 20 miles of railway between Georgetown and to Mahaica built in 1864. The line was constructed and is still owned by the Demerara Railway Company. The extension of railway communication from Mahaica to the bank of the Berbice River is again receiving attention. The Combined Court has pledged itself to provide the interest on the necessary capital, and tenders for the construction of the line have been invited.

59. *Canals.*—The principal canals are those locally known as Nos. 1, 2, and 3 on the Demerara River. They serve as waterways for the estates on their banks, most of which are now abandoned. The two former have been empoldered, and the extensive drainage and water conservation works which have been in progress for some years past are approaching completion.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The past year has been one of prosperity for the Colony generally, and although there has been a depreciation in value of the staple product, yet the value of the total exports is still above that of 1888. Trade has been good and the chief want of the Colony has been labour. A commission which sat in the latter part of the year resulted in the establishment of an Immigration Agency at Barbados, and the immigrants obtained, although few in number, were good workmen and of the kind most needed on the sugar estates which had felt the scarcity of labour more than any other industry.

The steady growth of the gold industry has been of undoubted benefit to the Colony. There has been no rush to the diggings occasioning a dislocation of every day life, although in some

districts the withdrawal of labour has been felt; and while the revenue contributed by the royalty on gold has carried with it the necessity for a large expenditure in administration, yet there is evidence on all sides that the wealth extracted from the soil is being largely spent in the Colony.

The town of Bartica, situated at the junction of the Mazaruni and Essequebo Rivers, has acquired some importance from its position as the point of final departure from the diggings. It has been laid out in building—lots and streets. 7,762*l.* have been realised from the sale of lots, one-third of which is devoted to the liquidation of vested interests, while the remainder is being spent in works of improvement in the town itself; no portion of this money has been taken into general revenue.

The civil administration of the North-Western portion of the Colony has been improved by the appointment of a Government Agent on lines which have been successful elsewhere, and it is satisfactory to record that during the first year of its history the revenue from the district went far towards the cost of administration.

During the whole of the year the Colony was free from any epidemic disease peculiar to the tropics except dysentery. It was visited, however, by measles and influenza, and these three diseases are responsible for the unusually heavy death rate of the year.

The criminal statistics are satisfactory.

(Signed) CHARLES T. COX,
Assistant Government
Secretary.

17th June 1891.

No. 19.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1890.

(In continuation of Colonial Report [Annual] No. 1.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

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1892.

[C.—6563.-3.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majestys Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

No.	Colony.	Year.
84	Hong Kong (Further Report)	1889
85	Bahamas (Fibre Industry)	—
86	Heligoland	1889
87	Newfoundland	1888
88	Mauritius, Seychelles, and Rodrigues	,,
89	Zululand	1889
90	Gibraltar	,,
91	Grenada	,,
92	Bermuda	,,
93	St. Vincent	1888
94	St. Vincent	1889
95	Bahamas	,,
96	St. Lucia	,,
97	British Bechuanaland	1888–9
98	Turks and Caicos	1889
99	Gambia	,,
100	Straits Settlements	,,
101	St. Kitts-Nevis	1886
102	Basutoland (Governor's Visit)	1890
103	British New Guinea	1888–9
104	Natal	1889
105	Malta	,,
106	British Guiana	,,
107	Barbados	,,
108	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
109	Western Australia	,,
110	Gold Coast (Agriculture)	1890
111	Labuan	1889
112	Jamaica	,,
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1	British Honduras	1889
2	Mauritius	,,
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17	Falkland Islands	,,
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No. 19.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

[In continuation of Colonial Report [Annual] No. 1.]

Government House, Belize,
July 30, 1891.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1890, together with the report thereon, by Mr. Sydney Olivier, who was acting Colonial Secretary when its compilation was completed.

2. I regret that I have been unable to put your Lordship in possession of this annual return at an earlier date.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. W. MELVILLE,
Administrator

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT to accompany the BLUE BOOK of the COLONY of BRITISH HONDURAS for the Year 1890.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit to you the following comments and explanations in connexion with the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1890, now complete.

A.—*Taxes, Duties, and other Sources of Revenue.*

The taxes levied in the year 1890 were the same as those of the previous year, except that the export duty on logwood imposed in 1889 to meet the cost of demonetising the Mexican dollar was discontinued early in 1890, as soon as the total loss by that operation had been recovered. A Bill was introduced in the Legislature during the year, having for its object a more equitable assessment of the land and property tax, but did not come into operation. (*See* J.—*Legislation.*)

In valuing goods for duties assessed on the value, prices stated in British sterling or United States currency were converted into Colonial currency at the rate of two shillings and ten pence (2*s.* 10*d.*) to the dollar.

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BRITISH HONDURAS.

The mail steamers from New Orleans and those of Messrs. Williams and Rankine running between New York and Belize njoyed exemption from light dues and compulsory pilotage, being under contract to carry mails for the Government.

B.—*Fees.*

The schedule of fees is fuller than in former blue books owing to the insertion of some statutory fees hitherto omitted.

C, D.—*General Revenue and Expenditure.*

The total revenue, $332,135.87, though less than that of 1889, exceeded the estimate for the year by $28,583; and it is fortunate that there was this excess, as the expenditure exceeded the estimate by $37,975 and the revenue by $2,245. The excess of the total expenditure, $344,452, as shown in the returns, over the total revenue is augmented by the sum of $10,071 paid out of general revenue balances in the course of the years 1888 and 1889 towards the cost of the Belize town and harbour improvements, and in those years carried to a suspense account as "Advances"; the assumption being that the amount should be repaid to general revenue out of a loan to be raised at some future date. It was, however, judged advisable, at the close of 1890, that these disbursements should at once be brought to account as a final charge against general revenue, no loan having been raised to meet them.

It may be mentioned that similar "advances" have been made to the town of Belize, to the Sanitary Board, and to a railway account, which there are at present no funds to repay, and which have depleted the Treasury without appearing in the expenditure. The advances to the Sanitary Board will be brought to account as expenditure in 1890. Those to the railway account will be left at its debit for the present, as survey operations are in contemplation which may or may not result in the raising of a loan, to which it may be thought proper to charge these preliminary expenses. Suspense accounts of this character in general are objectionable and should be avoided; as they give an opening for the spending of money without proper authority, and in the case of these two accounts it might have been better at once to take votes for the expenditure contemplated.

In spite of these unsecured advances, the balance sheet of the Colony shows a satisfactory excess of available assets over liabilities on the 31st December 1890.

In comparing the Customs revenue of 1890 with that of 1889 and previous years, two preliminary corrections must be made. The temporary export duty already referred to must be set apart (this produced in 1889 $20,113 and in 1890 $1,327), and it must be noted that the receipts of 1890 for import duties appear higher by $9,351 than they would have appeared had the system of accounting observed in 1889 been continued. The Collector of

Customs may and does permit importers to clear their goods on giving 30 days' bills for the duties; and the amount of these bills has until this year not been brought to account as import duties until they were paid, though the goods were at once entered in the returns of imports. The bills received in December 1890, amounting to $9,351, were passed through the Treasurer's accounts as import duties for that year received, and "advances" to the importers whose bills were taken, thus bringing the imports and the duties into accord and bringing the duties actually levied in the year to account within the year.

Allowing for these corrections, it will be seen that the Customs revenue of 1890 exceeded by about $10,200 that received in 1889 from the same sources according to the same system of accounting. The increase is chiefly in the receipts from specific duties, among which those on imported spirits show an advance of $12,446 which by itself would account for the difference. It is noticeable that the total value of the year's imports (*see* W) was less than in 1889. The Excise duty on rum made in the Colony shows a continued tendency to decrease, owing to progressive decay in the sugar industry. The deficit is made good by the increased importation of spirits, and there is collateral evidence that the consumption of alcohol is not on the wane in the increased revenue from licenses to deal in liquor, which advanced from $14,370 to $15,982.50.

E.—*Local Revenue and Expenditure.*

The separation of the funds of the towns of Belize, Corosal, and Orange Walk from the general account of the Colony was initiated in the year 1887, and may be said to have been to some extent on trial since that time. The revenues assigned to the town funds are the property tax levied within their boundaries, including the special fire rate in Belize, the license duties on animals, carriages, &c., and market and cemetery fees. The expenditure is controlled exclusively by the Governor-in-Council. In 1889 and 1890 the settlements of Stann Creek, Mullins River, Punta Gorda, and Monkey River were created towns by proclamation so as to enable the dog tax to be levied in them, rather as a measure for the public convenience and with a view to abating the number of dogs at large than with any idea of fostering municipal institutions.

The result has been to provide a small revenue available for the improvement of these towns, which has been applied to the widening and straightening of streets, rebuilding bridges, &c.

It will be observed that the town of Orange Walk has a considerable surplus and that Corosal has also a fair balance in hand. It is proposed that such excess of revenue over expenditure shall in the future be applied to the improvement of roads leading to those towns, as well as to public works within their boundaries.

The town fund of Belize, on the other hand, is at present insolvent: the deficit of $1,266 with which it commenced the

BRITISH HONDURAS.

year having increased to $9,236 on the 31st December, owing to special expenditure on the improvement, repair, and scavenging of the streets, which was incurred chiefly on account of the occurrence of cases of yellow fever during the year. There was further special expenditure on this account by the Sanitary Board who disbursed $1,416 placed at their disposal from general revenue.

The excess of the town expenditure of Belize over the local revenue has been met by advances from general revenue. As the expenditure of the local funds is entirely at the discretion of the Governor and is not subject to the vote of the Legislative Council, it seems advisable that the Legislature should at any rate have some control over the extent to which the local fund is to be permitted to draw upon the Treasury for advances to meet expenditure in excess of its income. There is at present no prospect of the town fund being able at an early date to repay, without increased local taxation, its debt to the general revenue.

H.—*Public Works.*

The construction of a new poor-house at Belize and of a landing jetty at Corosal were the most noticeable of the completed public works of the year. The dredging of the harbour and the filling of low-lying lots in the town of Belize were proceeded with during the year, subject to frequent difficulties and interruptions due to the defects of the dredger employed. Considerable controversy having arisen as to the manner in which the town and harbour improvements had been conducted, and the recurrence of pernicious fever in the town having been attributed to the method followed in their execution, Baron Siccama, who had drawn up the scheme for these works, proceeded, on his own offer, to the Colony to report upon the works. His report pointed to the necessity of considerable further expenditure for the purchase of a new dredger and for the completion of the works in progress.

J.—*Legislation.*

The year was not prolific in legislation owing to the fact that the unofficial members of the Legislative Council tendered the resignation of their seats in April and did not resume them during the year. The only Ordinance of any importance brought into operation was Ordinance No. 2 "to provide for the notification of infectious diseases to the boards of health, both central and local" (there are as yet no local boards of health) "and to "confer additional powers upon those boards." The powers conferred have been exercised by the Central Board of Health in several instances during the year. Ordinance No. 4 provided for a modification of the land tax, but as it was introduced in the Legislative Council without previous publication as required by the Secretary of State's instructions, and was passed in the absence

of all the unofficial members, the Secretary of State directed that it should not be brought into operation until it could be considered by them. Its operation was accordingly suspended by Ordinance No. 6, and it was repealed by Ordinance No. 7 in order to enable the land tax for the year to be levied under the law previously in force.

K, L.—*Political Franchise and Councils and Assemblies.*

The Legislative Council is at present composed, in accordance with chapter 2 of the laws of the Colony, of the Governor, as president, four public officers holding seats *ex-officio*, and five unofficial members appointed by the Queen approved on the nomination of the Governor. The Governor's vote and casting vote give the Crown the control of legislation. This power having been exercised by the Governor at a meeting of the Council held on the 16th of April, to procure the voting of a sum of 4,163*l.* adjudged by arbitrators appointed by the Secretary of State to be payable by the Colonial Government to Mr. C. T. Hunter for damages and costs, arising out of the action of the Government in determining his contract for the execution of the town and harbour improvements, the unofficial members tendered to the Governor the resignation of their seats in the Council as a protest against the payment of this award. Their seats remained vacant at the close of the year, though the Queen had not yet formally accepted the resignations of their former occupants.

M, N, O, P.—*Civil Establishments, Pensions, &c.*

There were numerous changes in the *personnel* of the establishment during the year. Mr. McKinney, the Treasurer, was administering the Government on the 1st of January, in the absence on leave of the Governor, whilst acting simultaneously as Colonial Secretary; Mr. H. C. Usher filling the office of Treasurer and Mr. T. Graham (on pension) that of Police Magistrate of Belize. On the 15th of January Mr. G. Melville, newly appointed to be Colonial Secretary, assumed the duties of that office and the administration of the Government. On the 18th of February Sir R. Goldsworthy resumed the administration, which he again handed over to Mr. Melville on the 3rd of October, when he left for England for six months on half salary. Mr. Melville was absent on leave from the 8th of April till the 25th of August. Meanwhile Mr. McKinney had gone on leave of absence on the 1st of August, and Mr. Usher who had acted for him followed on the 29th of the same month, leaving the duties of both the Colonial Secretary and Treasurer to be performed by Mr. Melville with the additional responsibility of administering the Government after the 3rd of October. The Colonial Secretary's Department had already lost the services of both the clerks on its establishment, Mr. Hunt, the audit clerk, having quitted

BRITISH HONDURAS.

the Colony on the 14th of March, and having received promotion to the service of the Bahamas, and Mr. Wright, the chief clerk, having gone on leave for the benefit of his health on the 12th of September.

On the 3rd of November Mr. Sydney Olivier, of the Colonial Office, assumed, by temporary appointment, the duties of Colonial Secretary. He also acted as Treasurer until the 7th of December, when Mr. McKinney returned to the Colony. Mr. Usher resumed his duties on the 29th of December, Mr. Graham having acted for him during his absence. Mr. Young, appointed to be second clerk in the Colonial Secretary's office, arrived in the Colony on the 3rd of November and acted from that date as chief clerk, Mr. J. A. McKinney, of the Revenue Department, acting as audit clerk.

Mr. W. J. Anderson assumed the office of Chief Justice, in succession to Mr. Goodman, on the 24th of May; Mr. Goodman had left the Colony on the 1st of February. Mr. Hoffmeister, the Attorney General, acted as Chief Justice from that date till Mr. Anderson's arrival, his place being filled by Mr. F. W. Maxwell. Mr. Hoffmeister was absent on leave from the 24th of May to the 26th of December, Mr. Maxwell acting for him. Mr. F. H. Parker, Registrar of the Supreme Court, and Keeper of Records, acted as District Magistrate of Belize during Mr. Usher's absence on special duty in March and April, and left the Colony on promotion to the service of the island of Cyprus on the 29th of August. The duties of his office were performed after this date by Mr. L. W. Bristowe, his clerk, to whom the duties of clerk in the district court of Belize had been already transferred by Ordinance No. 5 of 1890, and Mr. Bristowe continued to act as Registrar and Keeper of Records until he was relieved on the 9th of December by Mr. S. G. Woods, who was appointed, at a salary of $2,400, to succeed Mr. Parker. Mr. S. J. Hood acted as clerk to Mr. Bristowe from the 1st of September to the 31st of October and Mr. D. Phillips from the latter date until Mr. Wood's arrival.

There were several changes in the Magisterial Department. Mr. Pickwoad, Magistrate of the Northern District, was absent on leave from the 21st of July to the 10th November, during which time his *locum tenens*, Mr. J. W. Standing, died, and the duties of magistrate were performed by Mr. E. A. Schofield and Captain G. C. Bayly, Sub-Inspector of Constabulary. Mr. A. Porter, Magistrate of the Cayo, went on leave on the 16th of May, his place being taken by Mr. R. F. Knollys (Private Secretary, Clerk of Councils, and Inspector of Schools). Dr. Gabb, Magistrate at Stann Creek, died on the 10th of June. Mr. Ross undertook the performance of his duties, but died on the 13th of October, when Mr. W. Bennett took his place. Mr. Porter was appointed to the vacancy and returned to the Colony on the 9th of November. Mr. Knollys on returning to his duties as Inspector of Schools was replaced at the Cayo by Captain G. C Bayly, and this magistracy was filled at the end of the year by the appointment

of Dr. J. H. H. Harrison to be district surgeon and district magistrate, with $1,000 a year in each capacity. The district surgeoncy at Stann Creek was abolished and the magistrate's salary raised to $2,000. Captain A. E. Kershaw, Inspector Commandant of the Constabulary was absent on leave from the beginning of the year till the 10th of May, his duties being performed by the Inspector of Constabulary, Captain A. B. R. Kaye, who himself went on leave from the 7th of May to the 7th November. Mr. W. Miller, Assistant Surveyor-General, was promoted to the service of the Bahamas and left the Colony on the 7th of May. Mr. C. R. Usher was appointed his successor at $1,750 a year from the 19th of September. The Surveyor-General's Department was further weakened by the absence on leave of Mr. Blockley, the clerk of the Department, from the 24th of May till the end of the year.

It will have been evident from this recapitulation that the public service of the Colony which, at its full strength, is barely sufficient for the requirements of the public service was during the year 1890 seriously weakened and disorganised by the unusual proportion of absences and changes among the holders of important offices.

As regards Return N, of officers who have given security for their duties, it will be observed that there are several officers who are entrusted with the receipt of public money who had not entered into bonds as required by the Colonial Regulations. In Return O there appears the name of one new pensioner, Mr. E. Adolphus, formerly magistrate of the Northern District. Mr. B. A. Cody's name has been removed from the list by death.

Return P is not very significant or valuable. It is impossible with respect to the important department of the magistracy to distinguish judicial from administrative expenditure, as the magistrates exercise functions both judicial and executive. Moreover, such information as the return purports to give is furnished more intelligibly in the return of expenditure classified according to the new arrangement of the estimates introduced for the year 1891.

Q.—*Foreign Consuls.*

Mr. E. C. Connor was appointed in the month of November to be Consular Agent for France in the Colony.

R.—*Population.*

No attempt has been made to form an estimate of the present population of the Colony. The numbers ascertained by the census of 1881 were 14,108 males and 13,334 females. Registration has only been attended to with any attempt at thoroughness since the year 1885. It will be noticed that the deaths recorded in 1890 exceeded the births by 31. A report of the Registrar of Births, Marriages, and Deaths (the first report yet made) has been submitted for the year 1890.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

S.—*Miscellaneous Numerical Returns.*

The number of persons owning land in the Colony increases but slowly, owing chiefly to the preference exhibited for leasing rather than buying Crown lands, a policy which will be commented on below (*See* AA.—*Grants of Lands.*) The small number of paupers is an indication of the ease of living for the bulk of the population. The only persons in receipt of relief are a few aged or incapable men and women destitute of relations able to maintain them. There is no poverty in the Colony: any man or woman willing to work can earn good wages; and those unwilling to hire themselves to employers can support themselves easily by fishing or provision growing, or their combination. There is little immigration, though there is a slight but continuous influx from Yucatan, Guatemala, Honduras and the Bay Islands of a class not very valuable to the Colony. One hundred and fifty labourers were engaged in Jamaica at the end of the year, for importation into the Colony, by the Hull Rope Works Company, for employment on their new plantations at Stann Creek. The chief obstacle to increased immigration from the West Indies, which would be of great advantage, is the absence of communication. Steamers and sailing vessels come to the Colony from Jamaica, Barbados, and elsewhere in the Antilles, but there are no means of returning thither except through the United States, a prohibitive journey, and the course of post to and from these Colonies is also inconveniently long. West Indians will not emigrate to a place from which they cannot get back, though they do well in the Colony when they come.

T, U.—*Ecclesiastical and Education.*

The predominant activity in the Colony of the Roman Catholic Church is conspicuous in these returns. The Wesleyans come next in the extent of their missionary and educational organisation. The Anglican and Baptist denominations do vigorous work with small staffs. The Church of England, which had a long start of the other denominations, has had little success in extending its influence outside of Belize, but has added in this year to its dignity by the creation of a bishop to supervise the priest and the two deacons serving in the Colony. The primary schools of the Colony have been created and are administered entirely by the several religious bodies, but two-thirds of the pecuniary cost of their maintenance are provided from public funds, from which $12,549.68 were expended in 1890. The provision for inspection has been hitherto inadequate, and the officer filling the post of inspector at a salary of $500 was unable, owing to other official duties laid upon him, to complete the annual inspection by the close of the year. The Secretary of State has approved of a salary being provided sufficient to permit the inspector to devote his whole time to his duties, with an allowance for travelling. The number

of schools increases steadily. There are now 34 against 27 which were open in 1889 and the number of children on the rolls has increased from 2,569 to 2,943, the average daily attendance being 1,966, distributed as below :—

	No. of Schools.	Average daily Attendance.
Roman Catholic - -	12	777
Wesleyan - - - -	12	667
Baptist - - - -	5	250
Anglican - - - -	4	231
Undenominational - - -	1	41

It is obvious, however, from these figures that not one half of the children in the Colony who should be receiving elementary education habitually attend school, and that quite a quarter of such number are not on the books of any school.

V.—*Currency, &c.*

The reform of the currency aimed at by the proclamation of Her Majesty dated the 15th September 1887, has so far been effectual that the depreciated fractional coins of miscellaneous New World currencies which formed almost the whole of the coin in circulation at that date have practically disappeared, and there is an abundant supply of good Peruvian, Chilian, and Guatemalan dollar pieces. But the inconvenience of this bulky coinage is considerable, and the payment of large sums can only be made by mule-cart or by the employment of robust porters. The Colonial Government accordingly contemplate taking steps for the issue of silver certificates, based on a specie reserve and investments, which it is believed will be of very great convenience to the public. There is no bank in the Colony, and it would probably be difficult for a new firm to establish a profitable connexion there. Owing to the rise in the price of silver during the year the value of the currency dollar was at times considerably above the Treasury rate of 2*s.* 10*d.* which had been fixed by the price of silver in 1889; and in the month of December, when silver coin is always in great demand for the payment of wages and advances to labourers hiring at that season, its value for the purchase of bills of exchange for sterling on London rose as high as 3*s.* 4*d.* This, however, was an exceptional price for a short period.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

W.—*Imports and Exports.*

The value of the trade of the Colony in 1890 compares with that of 1889 as follows:—

	1889.	1890.
	$	$
Imports - - -	1,863,327	1,829,480
Exports - - - -	2,155,554	1,866,099

The imports of the United Kingdom decreased by $41,980, the falling off being no doubt due to the drop in the exports. The most considerable decreases in imports were under the heads of boots and shoes, beef, pork, flour, tobacco, and cigars. Of the last-mentioned commodity there was a very remarkable and distressing scarcity at the close of the year. On the other hand, there was a substantial increase in the importation of cotton goods, provisions, soap, and spirits, which would appear to indicate progress in comfort and cheerfulness; and it may be safely asserted that the year was on the whole a very prosperous one, although trade was to some extent checked by the quarantine annually imposed upon the Colony by the port of New Orleans and by damaging and exaggerated rumours as to the prevalence of yellow fever at Belize. The values of the principal exports in 1889 and 1890 were as below:—

	1889.	1890.
	$	$
Bananas and plantains - -	188,243	190,716
Logwood - - - -	807,468	811,705
Mahogany - - - -	361,940	361,953
Total produce of the Colony -	1,437,443	1,310,737

The export of logwood fell from 21,978 tons in 1889 to 18,270 in 1890; but there were upwards of 3,000 tons awaiting shipment in Belize at the close of the year, owing to the expectation of a lowering of insurance premiums in January. There was a falling off in the export of cocoanuts, although there are large plantations giving an increasing yield in various localities. It is to be regretted that the exports of coffee, limes, oranges, pine-apples, rubber, sponges, and many other products which can be grown with very little trouble, show rather a retrograde tendency. Life is so easy in this Colony that the majority are contented with a hand-to-mouth existence, and fruit and vegetables are scarcely to be bought, for lack of care to plant them. The exports of goods in transit fell from $718,111 in 1889 to $555,362 in 1890.

X.—*Shipping.*

The entries of sailing vessels at the port of Belize fell from 353 in 1889 to 344 in 1890, and those of steam vessels were 167 in 1889 and 164 in 1890.

Y, Z.—*Agricultural Statistics, Wages, Prices, Manufactures, &c.*
A, A.—*Grants of Lands.*

The returns submitted of cultivated and uncultivated lands and the areas under the several crops are not very accurate or complete; and the schedule of so-called manufacturing works is perhaps too meagre even for the reality. Speaking generally, it may be stated that cultivation is steadily extending along the sea coast and up the rivers, in the Stann Creek and Toledo districts, especially where the ground has been surveyed, by the taking up of Crown lands by small leaseholders for terms of seven, 14, or 21 years.

This system of occupancy is preferred to the purchase of land; principally, no doubt, because the rent is easier to pay than the purchase money, the price of $2 an acre for Crown lands being apparently prohibitive although $1 per acre is returnable when the land has been improved. On leased land the rent can easily be earned by planting bananas and provisions, and the holding can be abandoned when its first reserve of fertility is exhausted. The Government gains the advantage of a large and increasing revenue from rents of such holdings, but it would, perhaps, be better policy in the interests of the Colony to encourage more permanent occupation and improvement by lowering the price for freehold land. It is a regrettable fact that the sugar industry which once promised so well, and for which the soil of the Colony is so well suited, was practically extinguished, so far as export trade was concerned, by the sugar crisis of 1884–85. Though sugar and rum for local consumption are still produced, the industry is progressively declining, and there is only one well-appointed sugar estate still in operation. The cost and difficulty of obtaining labour is largely the cause of this, as it has been of the failure or neglect of other agricultural enterprises in the Colony. A very promising effort is now being made by the Hull Rope Works Company to establish plantations on a large scale at Stann Creek River, where they have planted a considerable acreage with bananas, henequen, pine apples, tobacco, and other economic plants, meeting the difficulty of labour by importation from Jamaica. The wages of labour are high, taking into account the low cost of living to the creole; but a greater difficulty to employers generally is the shortness and uncertainty of the supply of labourers, and the frequency with which they break their agreements or hire to two or three employers simultaneously, for the sake of the advance they get from each. Reliable plantation labour is more difficult to obtain than labour for wood-cutting works, because whoever can earn wages by agricultural labour for a master can do quite as well on his own account by growing bananas on Crown lands, and generally prefers to, at least in the south of the Colony. The wages of handicraftsmen range from a dollar and a half to two dollars

and a half a day for a very moderate standard of performance, the day's work being scarcely half that of an ordinary English artisan. The most efficient bricklayer in Belize was in 1890 an inmate of the lunatic asylum. No sane day-labourer sees any necessity for excessive diligence.

There is probably a considerable amount of cultivation of maize by the Indians in forest clearings of which no account is taken in these returns, and there are no doubt trespasses on Crown lands of this nature, very destructive to the valuable timber on such areas. There is also undoubtedly a considerable amount of logwood, and occasionally other timber, taken off Crown lands without payment of royalty. Such trespasses, whether accidental or deliberate, are very difficult to detect without the employment of special officers for the purpose.

BB, CC, DD, EE.—*Gaols and Prisoners, Criminal Statistics, Hospitals, and Lunatic Asylums.*

There is nothing in these returns which calls for special notice. The number of convictions in the magistrate's courts and the Supreme Court is larger than in 1889, but less than in 1888 and 1886: there is a corresponding variation in the prison returns. As regards the prisons and hospitals it may perhaps be noted here that the Belize Prison and the Colonial Hospital are each a credit to the Colony and to the heads of the Departments in charge of them; their equipment and administration having been immensely improved in the last few years, at very moderate expense.

GG.—*Metereological.*

The table of meteorological observations appears in the Blue Book this year for the first time, and is in some respects incomplete. From this it appears that January was the coolest month and August the hottest of the year, as regarded mean maximum temperatures, but that the mean minimum temperature was lowest in March. The mean maximum in August is given as 91°, the mean minimum in March as 56°. (The last figure seems to me of doubtful credibility; as 56° is exceptionally low for an absolute minimum temperature at Belize.) There was much rain and heavy weather in January and the early months of the year were unusually trying and unhealthy.

HH.—*Savings Banks, &c.*

The deposits in the savings bank amounted to $42,040 on the 31st of December. The amount increases slowly year by year, but the institution is not used so much as might be desired by the class for whose convenience it is intended. The Colonial Government made a profit of $605 on the working during the year, not taking into account the cost of the clerical labour entailed on the Treasury staff.

Concluding Observations.

The general impression produced by a survey of the Colony's history during this year, and by personal experience of its public service and social characteristics, is that during 1890 the settlement has prospered materially, and has been full of healthy life, conspicuously indicated in the character and condition of the majority of its inhabitants. This substantial good fortune has been to some extent overcast and obscured by an unusual prevalence of tropical fevers, which have carried off respected and valuable lives, especially amongst Europeans recently arrived in the Colony.

The prospects of the Colony are for the present fair, but it must be borne in mind that the most important of its exports, logwood and mahogany, are growing year by year more scarce and more difficult of access, and that the agricultural industries which alone can take their place are at present uncreated.

I have, &c.

(Signed) SYDNEY OLIVIER.

To his Honour
George Melville, Esq., C.M.G.,
Administering the Government of
British Honduras.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 29.

HONG KONG.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1890.

(In continuation of Colonial Report No. 117, Old Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

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1892.

[C.—6563.–13.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following among other Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

No.	Colony.	Year.
102	Basutoland (Governor's Visit)	1890
103	British New Guinea	1888–9
104	Natal	1889
105	Malta	,,
106	British Guiana	,,
107	Barbados	,,
108	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
109	Western Australia	,,
110	Gold Coast (Agriculture)	1890
111	Labuan	1889
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No. 29.

HONG KONG.

[In continuation of Colonial Report No. 117, Old Series.]

Major-General Barker to Lord Knutsford.

Government House, Hong Kong,
August 27, 1891.

My Lord,

I have the honour to transmit the Blue Book for the year 1890, together with the Acting Colonial Secretary's Report thereon.

2. It is satisfactory to note that the revenue for 1890 has exceeded that of any previous year.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. Digby Barker.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c.

Report on the Blue Book and Departmental Reports for 1890. Laid before the Legislative Council by Command of his Excellency the Officer administering the Government on the 19th June 1891.

1.—Taxation.

There have been no changes under this head.

2.—Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue amounted to $2,011,859.27, or excluding premiums from land sales to $1,995,220.47; and the expenditure amounted to $1,915,350.47, including extraordinary works, excluding these, to $1,517,843.05.

o 68959. Wt. 19750.

The revenue and expenditure for the past five years have been :—

Year.	Revenue.	Premia from Land.	Ordinary Expenditure.	Extraordinary Expenditure, including Defensive Works.
	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.
1886 - -	1,367,977 74	34,731 59	1,195,236 81	825,624 84
1887 - -	1,427,485 79	155,238 02	1,278,181 68	744,820 38
1888 - -	1,557,300 03	160,688 64	1,461,459 64	530,870 03
1889 - -	1,823,549 13	154,725 60	1,459,167 16	374,551 63
1890 - -	1,995,220 47	16,638 80	1,517,843 05	397,507 42

3.—LOCAL REVENUES.

The Chinese inhabitants contributed in 1890, by voluntary assessment among themselves, to the pay of the district watchmen $7,266.32, and received from the Government for the same object a grant-in-aid of $1,500.00.

4.—ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

On the 31st December 1890 the assets of the Colony exceeded its liabilities by $399,732.25.

	$ c.
The surplus assets in :—	
1885 were - - -	427,692 42
1886 the liabilities exceeded the assets by - - -	191,512 29
1887 the surplus assets were -	631,374 08*
1888 „ „ „ -	360,649 76
1889 „ „ „ -	505,109 87

5.—PUBLIC DEBT.

No new loan has been raised.

Amount of present loan, 200,000*l.* Amount of sinking fund, 24,752*l.*

* A loan of 200,000*l.* having been raised during 1887 to be paid off on the 1st of March 1907.

6.—Military Expenditure.

The military expenditure (inclusive of the Volunteer Corps) defrayed by the Colony during the last seven years has been as follows:—

——	Military Contribution, exclusive of Defensive Works and inclusive of Volunteer Corps.	Defensive Works.	Defensive Works.
	$ c.	$ c.	£ s. d.
1884 -	114,498 78	3,464 64	650 0 4
1885 - -	117,337 00	68,153 45	12,576 10 2
1886 - -	124,561 68	217,901 45	39,230 0 0
1887 - -	128,815 63	258,444 28	43,710 7 6
1888 - -	134,594 68	62,115 90	10,036 4 0
1889 - -	134,261 12	63,750 73	9,678 14 5
1890 - -	124,646 96	5,082 92	832 1 1

7.—Government Buildings.

Government House.

Government House was maintained in good repair, and a new wing has been added.

8.—Public Works.

The expenditure under this head was $53,515.26 for works and buildings, $45,299.88 for upkeep of the roads, streets, and bridges; $36,861.18 for storm damages; and $5,082.92 for defensive works.

9.—Legislation.

The following Ordinances were passed during the year:—

No. 1.—An Ordinance to appoint an additional member on the Sanitary Board.

No. 2.—An Ordinance for the naturalization of Lam Neungshing otherwise Lam Yuk Po.

No. 3.—An Ordinance for the incorporation of the Procureur Général, in Hong Kong, of the Society of the Missions Etrangères.

No. 4.—An Ordinance to amend "The Public Health Ordinance, 1887."

Hong Kong.

No. 5.—An Ordinance entitled "The Vaccination Ordinance, 1890."

No. 6.—An Ordinance to repeal Ordinance No. 32 of 1889 and amend Ordinance No. 14 of 1862, entitled "An "Ordinance for granting Patents for Inventions "within this Colony."

No. 7.—An Ordinance to amend the Law with reference to the Falsification of Accounts.

No. 8.—An Ordinance to amend the Hong Kong Code of Civil Procedure.

No. 9.—An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 4 of 1865 relating to Offences against the Person.

No. 10.—An Ordinance entitled "The Magistrates Ordinance, 1890."

No. 11.—An Ordinance entitled "The Women and Girls' Protection Ordinance, 1890."

No. 12.—An Ordinance to amend the Cattle Diseases, Slaughter-Houses, and Markets Ordinance of 1887.

No. 13.—An Ordinance to amend the Law relating to the Official Administrator.

No. 14.—An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 16 of 1886, entitled "The Stamp Ordinance."

No. 15.—An Ordinance entitled "The Merchandise Marks Ordinance, 1890."

No. 16.—An Ordinance entitled "The Waterworks Ordinance, 1890."

No. 17.—An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 15 of 1888, entitled "The Rating Ordinance, 1888."

No. 18.—An Ordinance to repeal Ordinance No. 29 of 1888, and to amend Ordinance No. 15 of 1886, entitled "The Peace Preservation Ordinance, 1886."

No. 19.—An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 8 of 1873, entitled "The Dangerous Goods Ordinance, 1873."

No. 20.—An Ordinance to amend "The Police Force Consolidation Ordinance, 1887."

No. 21.—An Ordinance to authorise the Appropriation of a Supplementary Sum of Three hundred and Forty-nine thousand Seven hundred and Twenty Dollars and Eighty-five Cents to defray the Charges of the Year 1889.

No. 22.—An Ordinance to amend "The Chinese Emigration Consolidation Ordinance, 1889."

No. 23.—An Ordinance to amend "The Cattle Diseases, Slaughter-Houses, and Markets Ordinance, 1887."

No. 24.—An Ordinance to amend "The Arms Ordinance 1889."

No. 25.—An Ordinance to give further Powers to Companies with respect to the Alteration of their Memoranda of Association.

No. 26.—An Ordinance to amend the Public Health Ordinance of 1887.

No. 27.—An Ordinance entitled "The Squatter's Ordinance, 1890."

No. 28.—An Ordinance to apply a sum not exceeding One Million Six hundred and Eighty-two thousand Eight hundred and Seventy-four Dollars to the Public Service of the Year 1891.

No. 29.—An Ordinance to repeal Ordinance No. 13 of 1860, for the Establishment of a Civil List.

No. 30.—An Ordinance entitled "The Widows' and Orphans' Pensions Ordinance, 1890."

10.—Councils and Assemblies.

Executive Council.—His Excellency Major-General G. Digby Barker, C.B., the Senior Military Officer, was admitted a member of the Executive Council. The Honourable W. M. Goodman joined the Council on appointment as Attorney-General. The Honourable A. Lister, Colonial Treasurer and Postmaster-General, died on the 14th July 1890.

Legislative Council.—The Honourable W. M. Goodman, Attorney-General, the Honourable Ho Kai, and the Honourable T. H. Whitehead were admitted members of the Council. The Honourable N. G. Mitchell-Innes was appointed temporarily vice the Honourable J. H. Stewart Lockhart, on leave.

Sanitary Board.—No changes were made.

Board of Examiners.—The Honourable A. Lister died on the 14th July 1890. Dr. Eitel, Inspector of Schools, and the Rev. F. E. W. Hartmann joined the Board.

11.—Civil Establishment.

Sir G. William Des Vœux was absent from the Colony, by permission, from the 19th February to 22nd December, and during such absence Mr. Francis Fleming, the Colonial Secretary, administered the Government. Honourable Alfred Lister, Colonial Treasurer and Postmaster-General, died on the 14th July.

Temporary changes occurred in various departments owing to officers going on or returning from leave.

12.—Officers who have given Security for the Discharges of their Duties.

The validity of the sureties of the various officers was duly inquired into at the end of every quarter and found to be satisfactory.

13.—Pensions.

The following officers retired on pension during the year:—

2 turnkeys
12 Indian police constables.

HONG KONG.

14.—EXPENDITURE OF THE DEPARTMENTS.

The amounts paid during the year on account of the departments were:—

Payments in Great Britain in sterling money, 23,068*l.* 14*s.* 5*d.*

Payments in the Colony in local currency, $846,880.84.

15.—FOREIGN CONSULS.

No new Consulates were established in the Colony during 1890.

16.—POPULATION.

The estimated population on the 31st December 1889 was as follows:—

Males - - - - -	138,033
Females - - - -	56,449
Total - - - -	194,482

which is 21,318 less than the estimated population at the end of 1888.

The last census was taken in 1881, the population being then returned as 160,402, of which 115,369 were males and 45,033 females.

The following is the mean estimated population for the last nine years:—

Years.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1882 - - -	119,704	46,729	166,433
1883 - - -	124,768	48,707	173,475
1884 - - -	130,560	50,969	181,529
1885 - - -	137,079	53,515	190,594
1886 - - -	144,550	56,440	200,990
1887 - - -	152,427	60,524	212,951
1888 - - -	154,500	61,300	215,800
1889 - - -	138,033	56,449	194,482
1890 - - -	—	—	198,742

The births and deaths for the last five years were as follows:—

Years.	Births.	Deaths.	Per 1,000 of Mean Population.	
			Births.	Deaths.
1886 - - - -	1,557	5,100	7·74	25·37
1887 - - - -	1,705	5,317	8·01	24·97
1888 - - - -	1,662	6,034	7·70	27·96
1889 - - - -	1,683	4,597	8·65	23·64
1890 - - - -	1,617	4,553	8·14	22·90

17.—Ecclesiastical Establishments.

There were no changes in these establishments as compared with previous years.

18.—Education.

The total number of schools subject to supervision by the Government amounted in 1890 to 112, as compared with 99 in 1889 and 97 in 1888.

The total number of scholars subject to Government supervision in the Government and grant-in-aid schools during the last five years was as follows:—

Years.	Government.	Grant-in-aid.	Total.
1886 - - -	1,893	3,951	5,844
1887 - - -	1,814	4,160	5,974
1888 - - -	1,933	4,325	6,258
1889 - - -	2,293	4,814	7,107
1890 - - -	2,514	4,656	7,170

The total expenditure for these schools for the last five years was as follows:—

	$.	c.
1886, after deducting school fees -	43,085	50
1887 ,, ,, -	43,070	91
1888 ,, ,, -	45,518	93
1889 ,, ,, -	44,321	98
1890 ,, ,, -	56,081	75

HONG KONG.

19.—EXCHANGE, MONEY, WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Exchange.

The rate of exchange on four months' bills on London was on 1st January 1890 3*s.* 2*d.*, it fell to 3*s.* 1½*d.* on the 19th March, and rose to 3*s.* 10¼*d.* on 4th September, and was at the end of the year 3*s.* 5⅝*d.*

Currency.

The law affecting currency has remained unchanged.

Bank Notes.

The bank notes in circulation in Hong Kong during the last five years, as furnished by the managers of the respective banks, were as follows:—

Years.	Average Amount.	Specie in Reserve.
	$	$
1886 - - - -	4,368,705	2,138,333
1887 - - - -	5,052,473	2,362,833
1888 - - - -	5,759,875	2,660,000
1889 - - - -	6,034,984	2,552,500
1890 - - - -	6,073,332	2,775,833

Money Circulation.

The approximate amount of coin put into circulation up to 31st December 1890 was as follows:—

Hong Kong silver and copper subsidiary coins (20, 10, and 5 cent pieces; and 1 cent and mil pieces) - - - $5,599,125

Weights and Measures.

The weights and measures in use in the Colony are regulated by Ordinance 8 of 1885.

20.—IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

There being no Custom House it is not possible to furnish an account of all imports and exports but a record of raw opium imported and exported during 1890 has been kept, and is as follows:—

Imported - - - 62,463¼ $\frac{35}{40}$ chests.
Exported - - - 58,023½ $\frac{12}{40}$ „

21.—SHIPPING.

Arrivals exclusive of Junks.

The total arrivals, exclusive of junks, during the year 1890 amounted to 4,114 vessels and 5,093,733 tons, being 575,119 tons over the arrivals in 1889.

Junks.

23,512 junks measuring 1,795,261 tons arrived in the Colony in 1890, as against 22,926 junks and 1,716,922 tons in 1889, showing an increase of 586 junks and 78,339 tons.

The total arrivals for the last five years were:—

Years.	Exclusive of Junks.		Junks.		Grand Total.	
	No. of Vessels.	Tons.	No. of Vessels.	Tons.	No. of Vessels.	Tons.
1886 -	4,251	4,571,296	22,971	1,752,868	27,222	6,324,164
1887 -	4,078	4,607,914	23,521	1,793,923	27,599	6,401,837
1888 -	3,821	4,536,442	23,958	1,863,968	27,779	6,400,410
1889 -	3,820	4,518,614	22,926	1,716,922	26,746	6,235,536
1890 -	4,114	5,093,733	23,512	1,975,261	27,626	6,688,994

Immigration and Emigration from and to Ports other than in China and Japan.

The following will show the number of Chinese who arrived in, and the number who departed from, the Colony during the last five years:—

Years.	Arrived.	Departed.
1886 - - - -	88,704	64,522
1887 - - - -	92,375	82,897
1888 - - - -	98,800	96,195
1889 - - - -	99,315	47,849
1890 - - - -	101,147	42,066

22.—AGRICULTURE.

The lands of the Colony being limited and not favourable for agricultural purposes, there is no inducement for this industry here. The produce is quite nominal, and is for local consumption only.

23.—MANUFACTURES, &c.

Manufactories.

No new manufactories have been added to those already in existence.

Steam Launches.

The total number of steam launches built in the Colony in 1890 was 31, with a total tonnage of 2,377.10, as against 26 with a total tonnage of 1,172.58, in 1889. The total number of licensed steam launches of all descriptions in the Colony in 1890 were :—

Licensed to carry passengers - -	47
Private launches - - - -	53
Colonial Government launches - -	10
War Department launches - - -	5
Total - - - -	115

24.—GRANTS OF LAND.

The sales of land on lease during the last five years were :—

Years.	Total No. of Sales.	Total No. of Acres sold.
		A. R. P.
1886 - - - -	88	82 2 31¾
1887 - - - -	187	76 0 8
1888 - - - -	202	104 0 4½
1889 - - - -	65	88 1 15¼
1890 - - - -	6	2 3 10½

25.—GAOLS AND PRISONERS.

On the 1st January 1890 there were 549 prisoners in Victoria Gaol; 3,444 were admitted during the year, and 3,444 discharged; the total number of prisoners on the 31st of December 1890 was 549, of whom 42 were Europeans.

The daily average of prisoners was 566, as against 581 in the previous year.

The number of prisoners admitted into gaol during the last five years was as follows: —

Years.	No. of Prisoners.			Total.	Daily Average Number in Prison.
	Men.	Women.	Juveniles.		
1886 - -	4,278	173	149	4,600	674·00
1887 - -	4,012	149	147	4,308	584·00
1888 - -	3,390	98	139	3,627	531·00
1889 - -	3,453	131	121	3,705	581·00
1890 - -	3,218	119	107	3,444	566·00

26.—CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

Supreme Court.

The following is a return of cases tried at the Supreme Court during the last five years: —

Years.	Number of Cases.	Number of Persons.	Convicted.	Acquitted.	Charges abandoned.		Postponed.	
					Number of Cases.	Number of Persons.	No. of Cases.	No. of Persons.
1886 - -	75	107	59	20	16	27	1	1
1887 - -	94	155	82	36	17	26	1	8
1888 - -	101	186	99	47	28	40	—	—
1889 - -	92	143	64	41	24	37	—	—
1890 - -	59	80	43	20	7	17	—	—
Total -	421	671	347	164	92	147	2	9
Average of last 5 years	95⅕	143	94⅗	29	10⅘	18⅕	⅖	1
Average of 5 years ending 1885 -	84⅛	134⅛	69⅖	32⅘	18⅖	29⅖	⅖	1⅘

HONG KONG.

Police Magistrates' Court.

The cases before the police magistrates during the last five years were as follows:—

Years.	Total No. of Cases.	Total No. of Prisoners.	Cases how disposed of.						
			Convicted and Punished.	Discharged.	Committed for Trial.	Committed pending Orders.	Ordered to find Security.	Punished for False Testimony.	Undecided.
1886 - -	14,611	16,647	12,923	2,388	159	5	969	35	168
1887 - -	12,015	14,182	10,679	2,779	167	32	463	14	48
1888 - -	11,647	13,309	9,932	2,849	174	109	192	3	50
1889 - -	8,670	10,033	6,894	2,497	167	54	337	17	67
1890 - -	9,739	10,772	7,740	2,557	102	15	318	3	37
Total - -	56,682	64,943	48,168	13,070	769	215	2,279	72	370
Average of last 5 years - -	11,336·4	12,988·6	9,633·6	2,614·0	153·8	43·0	455·8	14·4	74·0
Average of 5 years ending 1885 -	10,153·8	11,870·2	8,851·6	2,356·6	181·8	26·6	350·0	15·4	88·2

Marine Magistrate's Court.

The cases before the Marine Magistrate's Court during the last five years were as follows:—

Years.	Number of Cases.	Number of Defendants.	Defendants how disposed of.							
			Imprisoned.	Fined.	Forfeiture of Pay.	Reprimanded.	Sent back to Duty.	To be discharged from Ship.	Dismissed.	Committed for Trial.
1886 - - -	58	87	43	24	6	2	1	—	11	—
1887 - - -	90	152	47	37	6	21	15	3	23	—
1888 - - -	70	167	66	38	2	2	53	1	5	—
1889 - - -	53	107	54	25	—	—	15	—	13	—
1890 - - -	81	239	92	84	6	1	15	—	41	—
Total -	352	752	302	208	20	26	99	4	93	—
Average of last 5 years - -	70·4	150·4	60·4	41·6	4·0	5·2	19·8	0·8	18·6	—
Average of 5 years ending 1885 -	77·6	156·2	71·6	31·0	8·2	2·6	15·8	1·8	24·8	—

Police.

The cases brought under the notice of the police during the last five years were as follows :—

Years.	Serious Offences.			Minor Offences.		
	Number of Cases.	Convicted.	Discharged.	Number of Cases.	Convicted.	Discharged.
1886 - - -	2,500	1,389	472	6,336	6,457	672
1887 - -	2,577	1,234	565	5,904	6,310	1,214
1888 - -	2,436	1,116	556	5,678	5,772	1,105
1889 - -	2,893	1,409	618	4,568	4,529	1,131
1890 - - -	3,100	1,412	616	5,324	5,007	1,213
Total -	13,506	6,560	2,827	27,810	28,075	5,335
Average of last 5 years - -	2,701·2	1,312·0	565·4	5,562·0	5,615·0	1,067·0
Average of 5 years ending 1885 -	2,493·2	1,313·6	514·6	5,044·0	4,105·0	886·2

27.—HOSPITALS, &c.

Civil Hospital.

The admissions to the Government Civil Hospital during the year were as follows as compared with 1889 :—

——	1889.	1890.
Police - - - -	590	582
Board of Trade - - -	135	110
Private paying patients - -	402	527
Government servants - -	135	191
Police cases - - -	252	264
Destitutes - - - -	279	283
Total - - -	1,793	1,957

HONG KONG.

The total admissions to the hospital and deaths during the last five years were as follows:—

Years.	Admissions.	Deaths.
1886 - - - -	1,623	79
1887 - - - -	1,656	89
1888 - - - -	1,772	80
1889 - - - -	1,793	77
1890 - - - -	1,957	98
Total - - -	8,801	423
Average - - -	1,760·2	84·6

The admissions from the police force and the number of deaths for the past five years were as follows:—

Years.	Admissions.	Deaths.
1886 - - - -	602	14*
1887 - - - -	619	9
1888 - - - -	657	15
1889 - - - -	590	14
1890 - - - -	582	7
Total - - -	3,050	59
Average - - -	610	11·8

The admissions of Europeans were, in 1889, 166, as compared with 149 in 1890; the Chinese were 194 in 1889, as compared with 179 in 1890; and the Indians were 230 in 1889, as compared with 254 in 1890.

* In hospital.

Military Hospital.

The admissions from among the troops during the past five years were as follows:—

Years.	Admissions.	Deaths.
1886 - - - -	1,607	9
1887 - - - -	1,749	14
1888 - - - -	1,485	21
1889 - - - -	1,732	16
1890 - - - -	1,915	15
Total - - -	8,488	75
Average - - -	1,697·6	150

Small-pox Hospital.

The admissions during the past five years were as follows:—

Years.	Admissions.
1886 - - - - -	11
1887 - - - - -	65
1888 - - - - -	99
1889 - - - - -	19
- - - - -	2
Total - - - -	196
Average - - - -	39·2

Inquests.

The inquests held during the past five years were as follows:—

1886 - - - - -	120
1887 - - - - -	115
1888 - - - - -	63
1889 - - - - -	76
1890 - - - - -	101

By Ordinance 17 of 1888 the office of coroner is abolished, and the duties thereof transferred to the police magistrates.

Hong Kong.

28.—Charitable and Literary Institutions.

No fresh institution was formed.

29.—Religious Institutions.

No fresh institution was formed.

W. M. Goodman,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Hong Kong, 16th June 1891.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

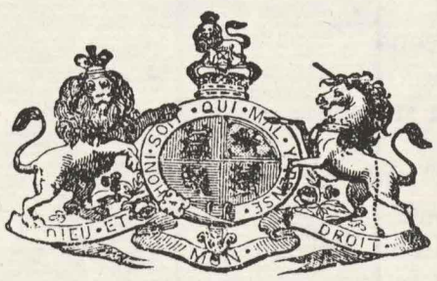
No. 35.

JAMAICA.

REPORT FOR 1889-91.

(For previous Report *see* Colonial Report No. 112, Old Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
February 1892.



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1892.

[C.—6563.–19.]

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1	British Honduras	1889
2	Mauritius	,,
3	British Bechuanaland	1889–90
4	Victoria	1889
5	Newfoundland	,,
6	British New Guinea	1889–90
7	St. Vincent	1890
8	Bermuda	,,
9	Leeward Islands	1889
10	St. Lucia	1890
11	Bahamas	,,
12	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
13	Gibraltar	,,
14	Zululand	,,
15	Sierra Leone	,,
16	Barbados	,,
17	Falkland Islands	,,
18	Labuan	,,
19	British Honduras	,,
20	Basutoland	1890–91
21	Trinidad and Tobago	1890
22	Leeward Islands	,,
23	Grenada	,,
24	Straits Settlements	,,
25	British Guiana	,,
26	St. Helena	,,
27	Mauritius	,,
28	Gambia	,,
29	Hong Kong	,,
30	Ceylon	1889
31	Lagos	,,
32	Lagos	1890
33	Ceylon	,,
34	Newfoundland	,,

No. 35.

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(For Report for 1889 *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 5.)

Sir H. A. BLAKE to LORD KNUTSFORD.

King's House, Jamaica,
December 28, 1891.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship the accompanying Report on the Blue Book of Jamaica for the period from 1st October 1889 to 31st March 1891.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY A. BLAKE,
Governor.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT ON THE JAMAICA BLUE BOOK, 1889-91.

Legislation.

During the 18 months from October 1889 to March 1891, 58 Laws were passed by the Legislative Council—viz.: Laws 17 to 40 of 1889, 1 to 32 of 1890, and 1 to 2 of 1891. (Laws 3 to 25 of 1891 were passed after the close of the new financial year.) Of these the following are the most important:—

Law 19 of 1889, which reduces the age at which children are to be received into a reformatory or industrial school from 16 to 14 years.

Law 25 of 1889, which makes provision for cases where the reformation of persons convicted of first offences may be brought about without imprisonment.

Law 28 of 1889—"The Public Water Supply Law." The objects of this Law are to consolidate the existing Laws on the subject of the public water supply, and to enable parochial boards, with the Governor's approval in Privy Council, to fix a sliding scale in regulating the rates and charges payable for water supply.

Law 32 of 1889—"The Agricultural Produce Buyers Law." This Law was framed for the purpose of preventing the system of roadside buying and selling, which gives rise to a vast amount of prædial larceny. The terms of the Law are very stringent, but the evil of prædial larceny had reached such dimensions that severe

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legislation was considered necessary. The Law is to continue in force for only three years, it being hoped that this will be sufficient to stamp out the evil.

Law 33 of 1889, the objects of which are to enable an exhibition of the products of industry, agriculture, &c., to be held in Kingston, and to make provision for its management and conduct, and for guaranteeing against any financial loss arising therefrom.

Law 38 of 1889—"The General Markets Law Amendment Law." This Law was passed in order to restrain the exposition for sale of poultry, game, fresh meat, &c., elsewhere than in a market. The markets have been erected by loans, and the market fees are pledged for payment of the interest and principal of the amounts advanced.

Law 40 of 1889—"The Conveyancing Law." This Law is nearly a transcript of the Imperial Conveyancing Acts (44 & 45 Vict. c. 41. and 45 and 46 Vict. c. 39.). It deals with unqualified persons who act as conveyancers.

Law 3 of 1890.—This Law was passed in order to remove all doubts as to the validity of marriages on board H.M.S. "Urgent" since the Marriage Law of 1879, the chaplain of that ship through a misunderstanding not having applied to be appointed a marriage officer under the Law.

Law 4 of 1890—"The Prison Service Law." The institution of a prison service apart from the constabulary, but in the first instance largely drawn from it, has been found to work admirably in other Colonies, and this Law has been drafted from the Prison Laws and rules of other countries, assisted by the local experience of the Inspector-General of Police.

Law 8 of 1890.—This Law increases the duty on rum to 6*s.* a gallon.

Law 9 of 1890 provides for the taking of the census of the Island. It is a copy (*mutatis mutandis*) of the Census Law of 1880.

Law 11 of 1890—A Law to legalise Art Unions. This Law is adapted from the English Act, 9 & 10 Vict. c. 48., with such alterations as were necessary to meet local requirements. It was passed principally to enable the disposal of several of the articles which it was expected would be sent to the Colony for display at the Exhibition of 1891.

Law 13 of 1890, which gives the Governor power to appoint a managing commissioner of the Kingston and Liguanea water-works, Kingston gasworks, markets and slaughter-house, instead of the Custos of Kingston being such managing commissioner as heretofore.

Law 17 of 1890 makes provision for improving the condition of the parochial roads by placing the more important of them on the schedule of main roads. Some such measure had for a long time been urged on the Government, for, owing to the limited amounts at the disposal of the parochial road commissioners, the condition of several of the roads was a source of great inconvenience and dissatisfaction to the public. The Law also gives power to the Governor to raise money by loan for the reconstruction of

these roads, special taxes being imposed to provide for the payment of the interest and principal of the loan, and after that for the maintenance and repair of the roads.

Law 19 of 1890 was passed to relieve the Governor from payment of import duty, rates, and taxes.

Law 23 of 1890 gives power in certain cases to the trustees to sell portions of the Titchfield Trust Lands. These lands have of late years become very valuable, and as they were of no use to the trust, the trustees desired to dispose of some of them and apply the money in increasing the advantages of the trust.

Law 24 of 1890—"A Law to prevent the Importation of Cattle "and other Animals suffering from contagious or infectious Diseases." It was feared that the importation of cattle from South America, which had recently assumed considerable proportions, might, if not properly regulated, result in disease being brought to the Island by these foreign cattle. The Law is extracted from the English Act, 41 & 42 Vict. c. 74., so far as it relates to the importation of foreign cattle, with such alterations as are necessary to bring it into conformity with local usages.

Law 26 of 1890 provides for the admission free of import duty of apparatus and appliances for generating, storing, or conducting electricity, and machinery or mechanical contrivances for developing the resources of the Island. It was thought that as gas piping, machinery, and plant for the Jamaica Railway were admitted free of duty, the same advantage might be extended to other apparatus for the application of mechanical contrivances and electric energy to industrial enterprises.

Law 27 of 1890 gives power to the Government to contract with companies for building, extending, or completing hotels. The want of hotel accommodation was much felt, and, in view of the expected large influx of visitors to the Exhibition, it was thought that something should be done to encourage capitalists to speculate in hotels.

Law 29 of 1890 is really an amendment of Law 32 of 1889, but to prevent confusion, it was thought better to repeal that Law and to introduce a new enactment. Its object is to further regulate the purchase and sale of certain articles of agricultural produce, and to provide for the licensing of agricultural produce dealers.

Law 31 of 1890 makes provision for a system of sewerage for Kingston, for disposing of the sewage and for the reconstruction of the streets.

The question of the drainage and reconstruction of the streets of Kingston has for a long time attracted much attention, and no pains have been spared to obtain the best professional advice on the important subject of sub-soil drainage. This Law is the outcome of the information obtained. It makes provision for the appointment of nine Commissioners, three of whom must be resident in Kingston. These Commissioners have power to appoint one of their number a Managing Commissioner and to pay him 200*l.* a year, but no other Commissioner may receive any remuneration for his services.

The Commissioners are to collect and discharge the sewage into the sea beyond the Palisadoes, or to use it for fertilizing a sewage

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farm if it should be thought desirable to dispose of all or any part of it in that manner.

Law 32 of 1890—"The Electric Lighting Law." This Law was passed to control an electric lighting company so as to prevent injury to life and property. It is an adaptation to local circumstances of the English Acts, 45 & 46 Vict. c. 56. and 51 & 52 Vict. c. 12.

Finance.

In accordance with the decision of the Legislative Council, a change has been effected in the date of the financial year. The year under review commenced on the 1st of April (from which period the financial year will date in future), when a surplus was brought over of 190,287*l.* The revenue realised was 628,950*l.*, not including the revenue collected for main road purposes under Law 17 of 1890, namely, 30,815*l.*, making a total sum of 819,237*l.* The expenditure, on the other hand, including the sum of 29,018*l.* 15*s.* for sinking funds and 3,500*l.* for the redemption of debt, and excluding 34,141*l.*—the expenditure from loans raised or authorised—amounted to 575,250*l.* The year therefore closed with the large surplus of 243,987*l.*

The appropriated parochial revenues, which are devoted to parochial roads, poor relief, sanitary, and other local services, and are administered by the several parochial boards, produced in this year 124,619*l.*, being an increase of 17,347*l.* over the receipts in 1888–89.

The revenue appropriated to immigration services, including the proceeds of employers' notes for cost of introduction of immigrants, amounted to 4,405*l.*, and the expenditure to 8,411*l.* The decrease of revenue is due to the reduction of export duties on sugar and rum under Law 9 of 1889, and the discontinuance of immigration under the old law.

The usual comparative table of the whole of the Treasury receipts in the year under report with those of the previous year is given below:—

	1890–91.	1888–89.	Increase.	Decrease.
General Revenue.	£	£	£	£
Import duties - - -	366,662	284,377	82,285	—
Export duties - - -	6,687	9,398	—	2,711
Light dues - - -	2,377	2,300	77	—
Harbour master's fees - -	2,816	2,162	654	—
Rum duties - - -	136,160	95,502	40,658	—
Licenses - - - -	2,915	19,933	—	17,018
Stamps - - - -	19,286	16,666	2,620	—
Tax on stock - - -	4,753	4,501	252	—
Main Road Revenues.				
Holdings tax - - -	15,743	—	15,743	—
Spirit licenses - - -	15,071	—	15,071	—
	—	—	157,360	19,729
	572,470	434,839	137,631	—

	1890–91.	1888–89.	Increase.	Decrease.
Main Road Revenues—cont.	£	£	£	£
Postal revenue	17,685	18,295	—	610
Telegraph revenue	6,392	4,795	1,597	—
Court fees	7,578	7,187	391	—
Fines and forfeitures	4,639	3,622	1,017	—
Interest on securities for sinking funds	9,365	8,903	462	—
Interest on savings bank investments after paying depositors	3,896	4,755	—	859
Interest other than above	7,927	4,402	3,525	—
Jamaica railway receipts	436	60,859	—	60,423
Reimbursements for expenditure	2,205	24,178	—	1,773
Miscellaneous	6,972	7,710	—	738
	—	—	6,992	64,403
	87,295	144,706	—	—
	659,765	579,545	—	57,411
Revenues specially appropriated.				
Parochial road revenues	50,317	42,146	8,171	—
Kingston streets tax	6,639	3,381	3,258	—
Parochial municipal revenues	10,693	9,781	912	—
Parochial general purposes	2,016	757	1,259	—
Poor rates	40,531	38,263	2,268	—
Sanitary rates	8,238	8,119	119	—
Fire rates	1,345	1,239	106	—
Gas rates	2,598	2,641	—	43
Miscellaneous	2,242	945	1,297	—
	—	—	17,390	43
	124,619	107,272	17,347	—
Immigration Revenues.				
Export duties	2,598	3,675	—	1,077
Proceeds of planters' notes	1,427	4,078	—	2,651
Miscellaneous	46	61	—	15
Interest	334	324	10	—
	—	—	10	3,743
	4,405	8,138	—	3,733
Totals.				
General revenue	659,765	579,545	80,220	—
Immigration revenue	4,405	8,138	—	3,733
Appropriated revenue	124,619	107,272	17,347	—
	—	—	97,567	3,733
Total	788,789	694,955	93,834	—

The yield of the general revenue shows a net increase of 80,220*l.*, over the previous year. The chief items of increase are import duties, 82,285*l.*, attributable to general increased prosperity, owing to the development of the fruit trade, and an improvement

in the coffee market; and rum duties 40,658*l.*, caused by extra duty imposed by Law 17 of 1890. The chief items of decrease are export duties, 2,711*l.* the result of a reduction of the tariff; licenses, 17,018*l.*, caused by the appropriation of the receipts from spirit licenses for main road purposes under Law 17 of 1890; railway, 60,423*l.*, loss of the traffic receipts on its sale; and reimbursements for expenditure, 1,773*l.*, due to the abolition of the cadastral survey tax.

The receipts from appropriated revenues show an aggregate increase of 17,347*l.* over those of the preceding year. The larger increases are in respect of parochial road revenues, 8,171*l.*, due to the tax under the Agricultural Produce Buyers Law 29 of 1890; Kingston Street Tax, 3,258*l.*, chiefly due to the appropriation of the receipts from spirit licenses under Law 17 of 1890. The remaining items of increase being mainly due to increased rates.

The following is a similar comparative statement of the Treasury disbursements compared with 1888–89 :—

	1890–91.	1888–89.	Increase.	Decrease.
General Expenditure.	£	£	£	£
Charges of debt	76,569	83,128	—	6,559
Pensions	14,167	15,036	—	869
Administrative departments	34,585	32,094	2,491	—
Government savings bank	2,374	2,234	140	—
Revenue departments	33,740	31,902	1,838	—
Postal service	21,540	20,919	621	—
Telegraph service	5,554	4,438	1,116	—
Judicial	38,574	36,058	2,516	—
Ecclesiastical	6,138	6,277	—	139
Medical	49,502	49,515	—	13
Constabulary	50,133	47,827	2,306	—
Prisons	18,388	18,658	—	270
Reformatories	5,185	5,476	—	291
Education	40,252	37,518	2,734	—
Industrial schools	162	—	162	—
Harbours and pilotage	1,416	1,473	—	57
Military	8,590	7,648	942	—
Coasting service	1,800	1,786	14	—
Steam communication—Halifax	783	833	—	50
Subsidy Telegraph Company	2,000	2,000	—	—
Registration department	3,466	2,939	527	—
Registration of titles department	527	—	527	—
Island Record Office	1,407	1,257	150	—
Colonisation of immigrants	—	60	—	60
Government printing department	6,534	6,336	198	—
Jamaica institute	3,586	942	2,644	—
Board of supervision	339	485	—	146
Public plantations and gardens	6,932	5,070	1,862	—
Railway	385	33,167	—	32,782
Maintenance of lands	—	167	—	167
Census, 1891	84	—	84	—
Miscellaneous	5,346	7,165	—	1,819
Public works	90,608	55,180	35,428	—
Lighthouses	1,055	2,452	—	1,397
Repatriation of Jamaicans	—	4,559	—	4,559
Total	531,721	524,599	56,300	49,178

—	1890-91.	1888-89.	Increase.	Decrease.
Expenditure from appropriated Revenues.	£	£	£	£
Parochial roads - - -	60,148	51,639	8,509	—
Kingston streets - - -	892	892	—	—
Parochial municipal objects -	9,143	6,720	2,423	—
Parochial general purposes -	3,157	2,387	770	—
Relief of poor - - -	43,221	38,566	4,655	—
Sanitary appropriation - -	5,524	8,241	—	2,717
Fire appropriation, Kingston -	1,502	1,147	355	—
Gas appropriation, Kingston -	2,702	3,041	—	339
	—	—	16,712	3,056
Total - - -	126,289	112,633	13,656	—
Immigration expenditure - -	8,411	8,973	—	562
Total general expenditure - -	531,721	524,599	7,122	—

The general expenditure of the Colony shows an increase of 7,122*l.* The following are the chief items of increase:—Administrative departments 2,491*l.*, chiefly for increments to salaries, and postages on the discontinuance of the franking system; Revenue departments 1,838*l.*, for increments to salaries and increase of staff; Telegraphs 1,116*l.*, for the establishment of new stations and extra operators and travelling charges; Judicial 2,516*l.*, for increase of the staff of the Resident Magistrates' Courts; Constabulary 2,306*l.*, due to an increase in strength of the force; Education 2,734*l.*, due to an improvement in the schools and consequent increase in the grants; Jamaica Institute 2,644*l.*, for grant to Imperial Institute, Exhibition expenses, and the purchase of new books and furniture; public gardens and plantations 1,862*l.*, chiefly for meeting cost of display at the Exhibition. There is also a large increase of 35,428*l.*, under Public Works, due to the purchase of wharf premises at the foot of East Street, Kingston, and increase of works generally. The large items of decrease will be found under charges of debt 6,559*l.*, and railway 32,782*l.*, saving of working expenses and maintenance after its sale in January 1890.

The expenditure from appropriated revenues shows an increase of 13,656*l.*, the principal heads of increase are parochial roads 8,509*l.*, parochial municipal objects 2,423*l.*, and poor relief 4,655*l.*; the only important decrease being 2,717*l.* under "Sanitary Appropriation."

Pensions.

During the 18 months under review pensions, amounting in all to 1,593*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.*, were granted under the provisions of the Jamaica Pension Law 34 of 1885, and the resolution of the Legislative Council of the 23rd October 1885, while the pension list was reduced to the extent of 3,216*l.* 4*s.*, by deaths, &c.

Debt.

There has not been any fresh debt incurred during the year under review; but a sum of 1,500*l.* was raised in the preceding half-year, under Law 20 of 1888—"The Rio Cobre Canal Debenture Conversion Law"—to meet the amount of debentures issued under Law 27 of 1872, which became redeemable during that period.

3,500*l.* of debentures was paid off from general revenue during the year, 2,900*l.* under Law 37 of 1887, and 600*l.* under Law 8 of 1871, while 3,900*l.* were redeemed from the sinking funds provided for the purpose, as follows:—1,300*l.* under 28 Vict. c. 26.; 200*l.* under Law 12 of 1879; 800*l.* under Laws 8 and 17 of 1880; 1,200*l.* under Law 19 of 1880, and 400*l.* under Law 17 of 1884.

The public debt directly secured on the general revenue stood as follows on the 31st March 1891, and on the close of each of the preceding financial years noted below, after making allowance in each year for the sinking funds actually invested for the eventual redemption of debt:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
1881 - - -	920,924	19	4
1882 - - -	1,238,750	0	0
1883 - - -	1,257,916	2	1
1884 - - -	1,243,899	18	9
1885 - - -	1,427,458	14	2
1886 - - -	1,478,790	3	8
1887 - - -	1,491,993	3	9
1888 - - -	1,502,684	9	8
1889 - - -	1,506,883	6	0
1891 - - -	1,458,221	12	7

Of the above amount of debt on 31st March last, 822,622*l.* was on account of the railway purchase, reconstruction, and extension, and 82,500*l.* on account of the Rio Cobre Canal.

The following are the amounts due for debentures guaranteed by the general revenue, raised on account of the several undertakings specified:—

	£
Kingston and Liguanea waterworks - -	128,200
Kingston markets - - - -	20,000
Kingston gasworks - - - -	30,000
Kingston slaughter-house - - -	10,000

Legislative Council.

During the period under review—viz., the 18 months from the 1st of October 1889 to the 31st March 1891—there were three sessions of the Council, namely :—

1. A session, after adjournment, which met for business on 23 days, its first meeting being on 1st of October and the last on the 1st of November 1889.
2. A session, after prorogation, which met on 39 days, its first meeting being on the 25th February and the last on the 1st of May 1890; and
3. A session, after prorogation, which met on 37 days, its first meeting being on the 24th February and the last on the 29th of April 1891.

On the 10th of October 1889, consequent on the illness of the Hon. Henry Hicks Hocking, Attorney General, the Hon. Thomas Bancroft Oughton, LL.B., appointed temporarily as acting Attorney General, took his seat as an ex-officio member of the Council.

On the 25th of February 1890 the Hon. Henry Kirke, who had been appointed acting Attorney General by Her Majesty the Queen, took the seat vacated by Mr. Oughton as an ex-officio member of the Council.

On the 14th of April 1890, consequent on the absence from the Island of the Hon. Colonel William Clive Justice, C.M.G., the Hon. Frederick Benjamin Price White, the Senior Military Officer, took his seat as an ex-officio member of the Council.

The Hon. Neale Porter, Colonial Secretary, being on leave of absence, the Hon. James Allwood, the Acting Colonial Secretary, took his seat on the 5th of February 1891 as an ex-officio member of the Council.

The Hon. Henry Hicks Hocking, Attorney General having returned from leave of absence, resumed his seat on the above date vacated by Mr. Kirke.

Major-General Wilsone Black, C.B., the Senior Military Officer, took the oath and his seat as an ex-officio member of the Council on the 6th April 1891.

Civil Establishment.

The Hon. H. H. Hocking, Attorney General, was granted leave of absence from the 10th October 1889, and Mr. T. B. Oughton, Barrister-at-Law, appointed to act provisionally in that office until the arrival of the Hon. H. Kirke in January 1890.

On the 6th November 1889 Mr. W. Fawcett, Director of Public Gardens and Plantations, left the Island on leave of absence, and Mr. James Allwood, Assistant Colonial Secretary, was appointed to act for Mr. Fawcett during his absence.

Mr. L. R. Fyfe, first-class clerk in the Colonial Secretary's Office, was appointed Colonial Secretary of Grenada in the early part of 1890.

Mr. W. Baggett-Gray was appointed Crown Solicitor in the room of Mr. S. C. Burke, retired.

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Mr. Thomas Harrison was appointed Surveyor-General in the newly-formed Lands Department.

The Hon. Neale Porter, Colonial Secretary, was granted leave of absence from the 10th February 1891, and Mr. James Allwood, the Assistant Colonial Secretary, was appointed to act as Colonial Secretary during Mr. Porter's absence.

Mr. R. G. Marsden, Resident Magistrate for Portland, was granted leave of absence from 1st January 1891.

Public Works.

The total expenditure under all heads has been 208,125*l.* 4*s.* 7*d.*, of which 69,482*l.* 2*s.* 9*d.* was expended on main roads and bridges and parochial roads taken over as main roads, and 138,643*l.* 1*s.* 10*d.* in salaries and services, maintenance, &c., of public buildings, light-houses, Rio Cobre canal works, acquiring lands for railway extension, &c.

The cost of maintenance of main roads and bridges, exclusive of those taken over under Law 17 of 1890, was 59,732*l.* 12*s.* 11*d.* This large expenditure was due to heavy rains, which damaged the roads in some of the parishes, to a considerable increase of traffic, and to the cost of building bridges, culverts, parapet and retaining walls, widening and generally improving the roads, which are in excellent order throughout the Island.

The average cost of main roads per mile for the 18 months was 57*l.* 15*s.* 4*d.*, being equal to 38*l.* 10*s.* 3*d.* per mile per annum, against 38*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.* in 1888–89.

Upwards of 407 miles of parochial roads were taken over as main roads, and work to the amount of 9,749*l.* 9*s.* 10*d.* was done on them.

Many of the bridges, constructed under the St. Thomas and Portland Bridges Loan Law, were completed and thrown open to the public.

The expenditure for maintenance and repairs of public buildings amounted to 10,346*l.* 18*s.* 9*d.*, and was, as usual, for the maintenance of churches and rectories, court houses, prisons, constabulary stations, public offices, hospitals and asylums, &c.

On new works and public buildings the sum of 40,119*l.* 16*s.* 2*d.* was expended mainly in providing increased accommodation for the courts, police, prisons, hospitals, &c., erecting a new ward at the Lepers' Home and building industrial schools for boys and for girls.

The telegraph lines throughout the Island, 595 miles in extent, were maintained in good order at an average cost of 2*l.* 12*s.* 10*d.* per mile per annum, being 12*s.* 4*d.* less per mile per annum than in the previous year, and several new lines were erected.

The lighthouses at Plumb Point, Morant Point, and Folly Point were maintained in good order, and a new holophotal light was erected at Morant Point in place of the former light.

The officers of the Public Works Department, at the request of the parochial authorities, undertook many road works for which

money had been granted from the parochial road reserve fund, and also reported and advised on various parochial works.

The public works stores were removed from the railway premises to the East Street wharf premises, which were purchased and fitted up for the purpose at a cost of 8,009*l.* 14*s.* 3*d.* The store department continues to be a source of great convenience as well as economy to the Government.

Lands.

During the 18 months 267¾ acres of land, besides a town lot, were taken possession of under Law 43 of 1887, and proceedings were commenced for the forfeiture of 27,941½ acres for non-payment of the quit-rent and land tax.

The amount realised by the sale and lease of Government lands was 1,535*l.*, and the amount received for rent of lands and buildings was 1,488*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.*

Surveys were made for various purposes, and plans of lands purchased, leased, or sold were prepared, as well as other plans and maps, including a cadastral map of the parish of Westmoreland. Many investigations respecting lands liable to forfeiture were also made.

Rio Cobre Canal.

The expenditure for management and maintenance of the works for the 18 months was 2,346*l.* 3*s.* 1*d.*, or an average of 1,564*l.* 2*s.* 0½*d.* per annum. The average cost for the previous seven years was 1,516*l.* per annum.

312*l.* 9*s.* was spent on new works and on extending subsidiary channels.

The amount collected was 3,765*l.* 8*s.* 6½*d.*, or an average of 2,510*l.* 5*s.* 8*d.* per annum; the average for the previous seven years was 2,277*l.*

The works were maintained in good order during the period under review.

Telegraphs.

The gross receipts during the period of 18 months under review were 8,933*l.* 5*s.* 6*d.*, being but 309*l.* 11*s.* less than the collections for the two preceding years; the expenditure was 8,121*l.* 8*s.* 8*d.*

The number of messages sent and received amounted to 159,499.

Nine new telegraph stations have been opened, and a new line constructed between Kingston and Annotto Bay, which has proved of great service in providing an additional means of communication in cases of interruption.

2,085 foreign telegrams were sent from inland offices, the cost of transmission being 4,079*l.* 16*s.* 2*d.*, which amount was collected and has been paid over to the West India and Panama Telegraph Company.

The railway telegraph lines have been made available for the use of the public under the regulations which govern the inland telegraph service, and special arrangements have also been made by which telegraph stations may be opened and used out of office hours, a privilege which was granted at the instance of those interested in the shipment of fruit.

Railway.

The Jamaica Government Railway was handed over to the Jamaica Railway Company on the 1st January 1890 under the provisions of Law 12 of 1890. It is reported by the Government Director of the Company that the gross revenue from that date was 92,610*l.* 9*s.* 10*d.* and the expenditure 61,095*l.* 8*s.* 4*d.*, leaving a net revenue of 31,515*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.* In the 15 months from 1st January 1888 to 31st March 1889, when the railway was the property of the Government, the gross revenue was 72,924*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.* as against an expenditure of 41,398*l.* 10*s.* 8*d.*, leaving a net revenue of 31,526*l.* 8*s.* 10*d.*

The following is a comparison of the revenue for the two periods :—

	1st January 1890 to 31st March 1891.	1st January 1888 to 31st March 1889.
	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*
Goods and cattle - -	49,648 14 2	39,682 10 9
Passengers - - - -	30,556 7 3	26,818 2 2
Princes Wharf - - -	9,486 19 0	5,788 16 7
Miscellaneous - - -	2,918 9 5	635 10 0
	92,610 9 10	72,924 19 6

There was an increase of 35,196 in the number of train miles run. The earnings per train mile for the 15 months under review were 6*s.* 2·18*d.* and the expenditure 4*s.* 0·94*d.* as against 5*s.* 6·18*d.* and 3*s.* 1·57*d.* in the previous period.

The number of passengers carried was 374,690, 33,145 of whom were first class, and the remainder third, there being no second class carriages in use on the line ; 17,002 passengers travelled with season tickets.

The first 12½ miles of the extension to Montego Bay were completed and opened during the period under review.

Botanical Department.

The department continued to perform during the 18 months under review most useful work in connexion with the propagation, sale, and distribution of plants and seeds.

The Hill Garden at Cinchona has been much improved, new walks have been formed and numerous flowering and other shrubs have been planted out.

Great attention has been paid to the native hill ferns, and several additions to the collection have been made.

A plantation of tree tomatoes ("Cyphomandra betacea") has been formed, and some of the fruit was sent to England, and, when eaten a month after being gathered, was pronounced to be very good and in excellent condition.

Cinchona Plantation.—No cultivation of cinchona has been carried on during the year.

The forest and ornamental trees planted at this station in 1883 were all thriving well.

Hope Gardens.—No great amount of work has been carried on at these gardens during the year.

Thirty acres of sisal hemp, imported from Turks' Islands, has been established and the plants are doing well. Half-an-acre of onions was established from seeds imported from the Canary Islands. The seeds germinated freely, and the plants have done well, many of them forming good large-size bulbs.

A valuable consignment of plants was received from the Royal Gardens, Kew.

The number of plants distributed free was 15,899, and the number sold 13,351. The amount received from the sales amounted to 387*l.* 9*s.* 11*d.*

Castleton Gardens.—These beautiful gardens continued in full operation, and attracted a large number of visitors during the period under review.

The Government of Lagos sent out, during this year, two apprentices to be trained in practical work at the Botanical Gardens in this Colony, with a view of hereafter appointing them as working superintendents of the district branches or out-stations in their own country.

An industrial school has been established in the grounds of the Hope Gardens, and a certain number of the boys are engaged in daily labour in the gardens. During the period under review seven Bulletins have been published containing 25 separate articles, giving information on new and important agricultural industries, as well as notes on other cultures, lists of plants growing in the gardens, and descriptions of native plants. These Bulletins have done much valuable work, and have come to be regarded as an essential feature of the Botanical Department.

Education.

The following statistics show the progress which has been made in the work of education during the 12 months ended 31st March

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1891, the period which the Inspector of Schools has taken in his Annual Report for purposes of comparison :—

Year.	Schools on Government List.	Schools inspected.	Scholars on Books.	Scholars in average Attendance.	Per-centage in average Attendance of Number on Books.	Class of Schools.					Not inspected.	Fees.	Grants in aid, including Building Grants.
						I.	II.	III.	F.	E.			
												£	£
1890-91	831	822	80,041	44,422	55·4	115	339	357	6	5	9	8,363	29,310
1888-89	826	788	75,480	43,488	57·6	104	288	386	9	1	38	7,944	27,690
Incrse.	5	34	4,561	934	—	11	51	—	—	—	—	419	—

This comparative table shows an increase of 4,561 in the number of scholars enrolled, this being somewhat larger than the increase in 1888–89, and about thrice as great as the estimated increase in the number of children between 5 and 15 during the 18 months ended 31st March.

The comparative falling off in the average attendances is, in the opinion of the Inspector of Schools, to be largely accounted for by the epidemics of whooping cough which had been prevalent, and the unusually wet weather, especially in the west of the Island.

It is gratifying to see that there is a great increase in the amount of fees paid, as it is no doubt an evidence of the general prosperity of the Island. The number, too, of first-class schools has increased from 104 to 115, or 10 per cent., and the number of second-class schools from 288 to 339, or 17 per cent., whilst the number of third-class schools has fallen from 386 to 357. "More "striking evidence of improvement in the quality of the work "in our schools," as Mr. Capper observes, "could hardly be "looked for, and the inference is clear that the work done by "the training colleges during the past few years is now beginning "to tell."

In the period under review two of the annual examinations of teachers and students in training colleges have taken place. The following table will show the principal results at a glance for the three years 1888–90 :—

Year.	Students Presented.	Honours with Bonus.	Full Passes.	Partial Passes.	Failures.
			Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.
1888	134	7	62	15	23
1889	142	6	62	14	24
1890	149	3	66	13·4	20·6

It will be observed that the number of candidates has continually increased; that the number of third year prizewinners has decreased, but that the per-centage of full passes had increased, whilst that of partial passes and of failures has decreased, from which it may be inferred that the quality of the work has improved.

In December 1890 the Government Training College for Male Teachers at Spanish Town was finally closed, as it was found that teachers could be trained at Fairfield and the Mico Institutions at less cost, and previous to its close all the second and third year students from the institution were removed to Fairfield and the Mico respectively. St. Mary's Female Training College was also closed in December 1890. This college was started some 10 or 12 years ago by the Rev. E. Bassett Key, and has, Mr. Capper reports, done some excellent work, as is evidenced by the number of its students who are and have been in charge of first-class schools, having raised them in several instances from a much lower position.

Only one pupil teachers' examination was held during the period under review. A far larger number of candidates presented themselves than in any previous year, there being 205 pupil-teachers and 234 volunteers, as against 180 and 92 in 1889. The proportion of failures is still, as might be expected, greater under the system requiring a pass in each subject than it was when the total number of marks was considered; but Mr. Capper is of opinion that there are indications that teachers are working with a view to meeting this requirement, and that the per-centage of passes will improve annually.

In the month of February 1891 the Board of Directors of the Mico were able to arrange for the holding in Jamaica of a "Teachers' Institute" for the discussion of educational principles and methods, and two of the most prominent educators in America, Dr. T. W. Dickenson, Secretary to the Massachusetts Board of Education, and Professor A. C. Boyden, from one of the principal Normal Colleges of the State, came to superintend. Every facility was afforded to teachers all over the Island to attend the Institute, and allowance was made by the Education Department for the necessary closing of the schools, and a small sum granted to every teacher coming up from the country for board and lodging during the meetings. In addition every teacher attending the Institute was, by arrangement with the Exhibition Commissioners, granted a ticket of admission available for the whole of the two weeks during which the Institute was held.

The result surpassed the most sanguine expectations. There is no doubt that the visit of Dr. Dickenson and Mr. Boyden has given a powerful stimulus to the work of elementary education in the Island.

Immigration.

There were no immigrants serving under indenture in the Colony on the 31st December 1890, but the number, including

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Chinese who had not completed a residence of 10 years, was 2,191, and the number who had completed their residence, and who are locally termed free coolies, was 10,263, thus making a total of 12,454 East Indians in the Colony on the 31st December 1890.

During the year there were no immigrants introduced into the Colony, but applications were received for 1,842 labourers, and orders were telegraphed to India to send 1,000.

The immigrants ex "Hereford," 1885 completed their indentured period of five years in the Colony, and were granted certificates of exemption from further service.

The ship "Foyle" sailed for Calcutta on the 25th May of this year with 567 time-expired immigrants; of this number only 29 were placed on the list of invalids. The amount of 4,297*l.* 9*s.* was taken away by 109 of the passengers in Treasury Bills payable in India; as usual, a large quantity of silver jewellery and gold coins was also taken away by the coolies.

A report of the Select Committee of the Legislative Council, which was appointed to consider the question of the renewal of immigration, was presented to Council on the 15th of April of this year, and, after amendment on a financial point, was adopted.

The report was in favour of the resumption of immigration, on the basis of the payment by the employer in respect of each immigrant, in his option, of

(*a.*) 15*l.* 10*s.* in cash on allotment or
(*b.*) 2*l.* in cash on allotment,
1*l.* 10*s.* at the end of one year,
3*l.* 10*s.* „ „ two years,
3*l.* 10*s.* „ „ three years,
3*l.* 10*s.* „ „ four years,
3*l.* 10*s.* „ „ five years,

making 17*l.* 10*s.* in all in regard to the second.

The report was also in favour of making the immigration department available for the protection of native labourers who enter into contracts for work on plantations, and extending to them the same rights and privileges as are enjoyed by indentured immigrants. As the result of this report the 1,000 coolies previously referred to were ordered.

There were no murders among the East Indian population during the year.

Emigration.

During the 18 months ended 31st March 1891, 1,088 persons left this Island for the Isthmus of Panama and Port Limon, and 2,726 returned therefrom—these figures show a great decrease on the year previous—the numbers then being 3,184 and 11,671 respectively; this is to be accounted for by the total cessation of work on the Panama Canal.

Government Savings Bank.

The number of depositors and the amount of deposits in the bank have been as follows for the last 10 years :—

Year.	Number of Depositors.	Amount of Deposits.
		£
1880–81	7,970	342,339
1881–82	9,543	324,847
1882–83	11,925	325,705
1883–84	13,601	350,546
1884–85	15,511	360,190
1885–86	16,320	363,292
1886–87	17,047	363,481
1887–88	18,311	393,250
1888–89	18,496	408,213
1890–91	19,872	423,011

showing an increase of 14,798*l.* in the amount of the deposits and of 1,376 in the number of depositors.

In the above amount of deposits are included five deposit accounts for the following public funds :—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Immigration Return Passage Fund -	4,738	16	5
Constabulary Reward Fund - -	522	1	4
Sinking Funds - - - -	1,672	0	5
Constabulary Pension Fund - -	1	19	7
Smith and Beckford's Charity - -	248	18	5

There were also 220 accounts for trusts, charities, Chancery suits, Administrator General, and bankrupt estates, amounting to a total deposit of 24,461*l.* 14*s.* 9*d.*

The remaining 21,520*l.* accounts, representing 399,377*l.* 1*s.* 8*d.*, are all ordinary savings bank deposits. Of the total number of accounts open at the end of the year, 14,840 were for 5*l.* and under, and 6,907 were for over 100*l.*

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The assets of the bank at 31st March last were distributed as follows:—

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Consols, 2¾ per cent. -	-		-	20,404	17	3
Inscribed Stock:—						
Canada, 3 per cent. -	27,908	0	8			
„ 3½ „ -						
Cape of Good Hope, 4 per cent. - -	47,766	6	8			
Ceylon, 4 per cent. -	14,400	0	0			
New South Wales, 3½ per cent. - -	31,558	11	3			
Victoria, 4 per cent. -	12,015	0	0			
				133,647	18	7
Debentures:—						
Canada, 4 per cent. -						
New South Wales, 5 per cent. - -	53,990	12	6			
New South Wales, 4 per cent. - -						
South Australia, 6 per cent. - -	60,997	10	0			
South Australia, 4 per cent. - -						
Victoria, 4½ per cent. -	53,531	2	6			
„ 4 „ -	47,308	12	6			
Jamaica, 5 per cent. -						
„ 4½ „ -						
„ 4 „ -	35,830	5	8			
				251,658	3	2
				405,710	19	0
Cash on deposit in Colonial Bank -				25,311	13	7
Total - - -				431,022	12	7

During the year 4,112 accounts were opened and 2,973 closed, showing an increase of 28 in the number of accounts open.

The number of deposits amounted to 31,727, and withdrawals to 30,997, representing respectively 215,441*l.* and 220,703*l.*

The expenses of management and the interest credited to depositors amounted to 14,308*l.*, while the revenue realised was 15,829*l.*, thus showing a net profit of 1,521*l.* on the year's transactions.

Trade.

The value of the imports in each of the last 10 years has been as follows:—

	£
1880–81	1,392,699
1881–82	1,321,962
1882–83	1,625,411
1883–84	1,568,639
1884–85	1,487,833
1885–86	1,325,603
1886–87	1,322,336
1887–88	1,695,605
1888–89	1,597,600
1890–91	2,188,937

showing an increase in the year under review of 591,337*l.*, or 37 per cent. on comparison with the value of imports in the year 1888–89. This increase is not confined to any particular class of imports, but is manifest in a greater or lesser degree in nearly all descriptions of articles received.

The value of goods entered for home consumption amounted to 2,153,180*l.*, an increase of 590,257*l.*, and is classed thus:—

	1890–91.	1888–89.
	£	£
Ad valorem goods	1,001,691	680,745
Rated goods	865,104	693,152
Free goods	286,385	189,027

The following items are those which have principally contributed to this increase of 590,257*l.*, the proportion of which, for each as compared with last year, is shown in each case:—Foodstuffs, 7·3 per cent.; liquors, 39 per cent.; tobacco, 63 per cent. household furniture, 62 per cent.; clothing fabrics, 35 per cent., hardware and ironmongery, 63 per cent.; building materials, 49 per cent.; machinery other than estates' machinery, 164 per cent.; books and printed matter, 53 per cent.; and on other imports, 102 per cent.

The imports were drawn from the several countries in the following proportions:—

	1890–91.	1888–89.
United Kingdom	56·0	55·0
Canada	7·0	9·2
United States	34·0	33·9
Other countries	3·0	1·9

showing very little change in the sources of supply.

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The following table shows the value of imported articles which were freed from duty in the tariff under Law 11 of 1867, and is given in continuation of similar tables in previous Reports:—

——	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.	1883-84.	1884-85.
	£	£	£	£	£
Steam engines	20,709	10,380	14,199	12,604	9,268
Mills	1,702	2,203	1,563	2,516	862
Other machinery	5,075	3,260	5,324	6,618	2,509
Pans for boiling sugar	1,190	809	2,025	1,067	—
Pipes for fluids	1,534	2,600	3,512	4,358	2,365
Stills	5,217	1,777	1,489	312	72
Shooks of all sorts	4,370	12,424	13,724	13,520	11,588
Staves	3,299	10,645	6,148	10,590	9,052
Wood hoops	756	1,932	1,923	1,047	1,107
Iron, galvanized	5,156	3,595	9,469	8,649	4,758
„ other manufactures	4,964	14	433	1,109	—
Miscellaneous	7,443	5,015	7,118	5,242	4,854
	61,415	54,654	66,927	67,632	46,435

(*continued.*)

——	1885-86.	1886-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1890-91.
	£	£	£	£	£
Steam engines	10,704	4,287	4,569	13,389	13,772
Mills	257	564	722	1,756	1,714
Other machinery	3,553	2,442	12,569	5,570	20,761
Pans for boiling sugar	201	435	203	415	254
Pipes for fluids	8,205	3,472	3,028	2,531	8,395
Stills	1,102	998	345	277	443
Shooks of all sorts	7,149	13,649	17,974	9,973	4,296
Staves	3,375	3,822	4,952	983	150
Wood hoops	855	978	1,841	797	159
Iron, galvanized	3,132	3,036	3,147	5,582	8,238
„ other manufactures	—	—	683	659	1,271
Miscellaneous	4,339	2,608	4,443	4,961	70,249
	42,872	36,291	54,476	46,893	119,702

In the large sum of 20,761*l.* for other machinery is included 10,633*l.*, the value of electric light materials freed from duty under Law 26 of 1890; also 3,104*l.* for copying and printing; 2,854*l.* for sewing machines; 1,333*l.* for estates' machinery, and 1,068*l.* for other labour-saving machinery. The large increase under "Miscellaneous" is due to importations for the Jamaica Railway Company's extensions. In this item is also included

1,687*l.* 17*s.*, the amount for goods imported free for the army and navy.

The following table gives the value of the exports in each of the last 10 years:—

Year.	Of Produce and Manufactures of the Colony.	Of British, Foreign, and other Colonial Produce and Manufactures.	Total.
	£	£	£
1880–81 - -	1,104,407	74,187	1,178,594
1881–82 - -	1,471,917	77,141	1,549,058
1882–83 - -	1,365,868	103,578	1,469,446
1883–84 - -	1,350,900	33,089	1,483,989
1884–85 - -	1,181,203	227,645	1,408,848
1885–86 - -	1,078,315	201,803	1,280,118
1886–87 - -	1,334,465	174,542	1,509,010
1887–88 - -	1,661,601	166,989	1,828,590
1888–89 - -	1,501,660	113,164	1,614,824
1890–91 - -	1,807,084	95,730	1,902,814

This shows an increase of 287,990*l.* over that of the preceding year, and the following are the items which principally contributed thereto:—Cocoa, 3,858*l.*; cocoanuts, 12,583*l.*; bananas, 192,254*l.*; oranges, 5,694*l.*; ginger, 5,877*l.*; pimento, 33,484*l.*; rum, 61,705*l.*; logwood, 7,166*l.* Coffee and sugar are the only important items which show a falling off.

These figures exhibit a marked improvement in the fruit industry of the Island, and, judging from the activity manifested in this direction in various parts of the Island, there is every prospect of its further development.

The value of the several articles of Island produce bear the following per-centage proportion to the total export value:—

——	1884–85.	1885–86.	1886–87.	1887–88.	1888–89.	1890–91.
Sugar - - -	26·1	18·8	19·8	17·3	16·3	13·1
Rum - - -	19·8	17·1	22·6	12·2	9·1	11·0
Coffee - - -	13·3	11·1	15·6	19·3	19·4	15·7
Dyewoods - -	13·2	18·1	14·4	21·2	25·0	21·3
Fruit - - -	15·4	22·5	16·2	21·6	20·3	29·4
Pimento - -	4·5	4·3	3·4	2·7	3·2	4·5
Other produce - -	7·7	9·1	8·0	5·7	6·7	5·0

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The exports of the principal staples in each of the last 10 years is shown in the following table :—

—	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.	1883-84.	1884-85.
Sugar - - hhds.	21,056	38,392	30,783	29,427	24,986
Rum - - phns.	13,952	22,742	20,085	20,364	20,805
Coffee - - lbs.	9,846,096	7,418,638	9,448,100	4,295,994	9,033,606
Pimento - - lbs.	6,058,264	8,514,517	9,551,630	12,372,863	6,794,078
Dyewoods—fustic and logwood - tons	45,459	33,409	33,108	46,724	57,533
Ginger - - lbs.	751,494	608,384	836,889	1,359,321	9,379,056
Arrowroot - lbs.	1,888	5,116	2,515	3,655	1,008
Fruit, value - £	44,216	124,269	132,962	253,021	181,650

(*continued.*)

—	1885-86.	1886-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1890-91.
Sugar - - hhds.	16,460	23,043	24,524	16,163	20,994
Rum - - phns.	14,763	24,126	18,684	13,749	15,936
Coffee - - lbs.	6,150,960	6,337,742	11,084,080	9,485,960	8,476,160
Pimento - - lbs.	6,919,087	7,335,712	7,454,608	5,172,153	10,120,544
Dyewoods—fustic and logwood - tons	65,082	63,114	103,364	116,247	110,994
Ginger - - lbs.	1,193,158	1,111,926	1,144,864	1,002,653	—
Arrowroot - lbs.	1,010	1,693	3,092	836	—
Fruit, value - £	231,522	215,583	337,403	303,910	531,726

The exports from the Colony during the past nine years were distributed among the different countries in the following proportions :—

—	1881-82.	1882-83.	1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1890-91.
United Kingdom -	62·5	54·46	43·4	37·2	39·7	38·6	40·2	37·3	32·4
Dominion of Canada - -	12·9	16·66	13·4	5·4	3·5	1·3	1·6	2·3	2·1
United States -	17·8	10·07	31·1	42·2	44·0	43·9	43·2	50·2	55·3
Other Countries -	6·8	6·81	12·1	15·2	12·8	16·2	15·0	10·2	10·2

showing a progressive increase in our trade with the United States, owing in great measure to the continued development of the fruit industry already referred to.

Agriculture.

Under this head may first be noticed as most striking the extraordinary strides made during the 18 months ended 31st

March 1891 in the extension of the fruit trade, the output of bananas having improved by 68 per cent., cocoanuts by 77, and oranges by 12 per cent.

The cane cultivation has continued to decrease, but there has been an increase in the cultivation of coffee, tobacco, cocoa, and ground provisions; and it may be interesting to note that the area under banana cultivation represents a little more than the area of the canefields that have gone out of cultivation during the past 10 years.

The increase in the area of land in coffee cultivation is to be attributed to the steady prices which have ruled for this commodity for some time past.

The cultivation of tobacco has shown a decided spurt, but the only parishes in which it appears to be grown to any extent are St. Andrew and St. Catherine, the increase of area in the former parish being 74 acres and in the latter 10. There is no doubt great scope for the extension of this plant, but it is believed that the want of continuous labour has been a drawback in the past to the development of this industry.

During the period under review there has been a large increase in cocoa cultivation, and it is hoped that the steps which the Government have taken in providing instructors to teach the peasantry the proper methods of growing and curing this commodity will tend largely to further increase its cultivation, for which a steady market is always obtainable at remunerative prices.

The pimento crop was a good one—the best for the past five years.

The following table shows the relative value in 1890–91 and in 1888–89 of the principal and minor products exported:—

	1890–91.	1888–89.
Sugar - - - - -	13·1	16·3
Rum - - - - -	11·0	9·1
Coffee - - - - -	15·7	19·4
Dyewoods - - - - -	21·3	25·0
Fruit - - - - -	29·4	20·3
Pimento - - - -	4·5	3·2
Minor products - - - -	5·0	6·7

Police.

The police force on the 31st of March 1891 consisted of one inspector-general, 14 inspectors, four sub-inspectors, 117 sub-officers, and 568 constables, being a total of 704 of all ranks, or only one man below the allowed strength for the period under

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review. The strength of the rural police was 928, giving an effective police establishment of 1,632 on the 31st of March. 171 men were enrolled and 152 discharged or dismissed from the force. Gratuities and pensions amounting to 712*l.* odd were granted to 50 of the men discharged.

The regular police were distributed as follows during the 18 months:—178 in Kingston, 436 in the 13 other parishes, and 71 under training at the depôt at Spanish Town.

The services rendered by the police as compared with the four preceding years are as follow:—

	1885–86.	1886–87.	1887–88.	1888–89.	1889–91.
Number of persons arrested on view and on information -	5,148	4,849	5,334	4,218	9,624
Number of persons apprehended on warrants	1,753	1,729	1,674	1,873	2,499
Number of search warrants executed -	85	82	75	102	153
Number of persons summoned - -	—	12,956	14,297	14,018	25,427
Number of persons subpœnaed - -	11,707	17,832	22,472	21,702	27,540
Number of seizures under revenue laws - -	333	393	465	225	665
Number of post-mortems ordered - -	337	338	319	388	627
Number of prisoners escorted - -	9,798	9,081	8,050	8,796	15,312

The criminal returns show nine cases of murder, including child murder, the cases in 1888–89 having been only four. Three of these were discharged for want of evidence or prosecution, and six were convicted in the Superior Courts. There were 20 cases of manslaughter; in the previous year there was the same number. Of these six were discharged, eight were acquitted, and six convicted.

Of other offences against the person the returns show six cases of concealment of birth, the same number as in 1888–89 and the previous year.

There were 683 cases of cutting and wounding, or 318 in excess of the number in the year preceding the period under review. Of these 397 were convicted and the remainder acquitted or abandoned for want of evidence or prosecution. Of the eight cases of shooting with intent, two were discharged, five acquitted, and one abandoned. Rape and assault with intent to commit rape numbered 55 and 43 respectively, 15 of the former and 18 of the latter were convicted.

Of the 25 persons apprehended for unnatural offences, 11 were convicted, seven acquitted, five discharged or the cases abandoned for want of evidence or prosecution, and 2 remained undisposed of on 31st March.

Of the more serious offences against property committed with violence, breaking into dwelling-houses and stealing, and breaking

into shops, warehouses, counting-houses and stealing, were the most serious, the figures for the 18 months being 228, or 60 more than in the year ended on 30th September 1889.

206 places were found by the police left open at night. In many cases where the fact of shops having been found open was brought to the notice of the owners they appeared indifferent to what might have resulted from their own negligence.

Offences against property committed without violence, such as larceny of small stock, larceny from dwelling houses, shops, warehouses and counting-houses, larceny of dyewoods, ground provisions, money, prædial larceny, &c., all show an increase, especially prædial larceny, for which 1,692 persons were apprehended; of this number 1,027 persons were convicted.

The returns show an increase in the crime of arson, but feloniously wounding stock and wilful damage to property show a decrease.

There were 33 cases of forgery and offences against the currency, of which 20 were convicted.

The police rendered the usual service in connexion with the Main Road, Sugar Mills, Birds and Fish Protection, and Agricultural Produce Dealers Laws. Satisfactory work was done in respect to cruelty to animals, 972 cases having been brought up during the 18 months ended on 31st March 1891. Little assistance was, however, given to the police by the public in carrying out this work.

Prisons.

The number of prisoners in custody in all the prisons and gaols in the Island on the 31st of March 1891 was 910. The number in each of the last five years on the 30th of September was as follows:—

1885 - - - - -	782
1886 - - - - -	803
1887 - - - - -	795
1888 - - - - -	749
1889 - - - - -	890

The number in the year under review was thus the highest in the series.

There were 5,570 commitments to all the prisons during the 18 months; during the previous 12 months there were 3,808. The re-convictions were 1,846; during the previous 12 months there were 1,242.

There were 31 deaths in the General Penitentiary during the 18 months. Of this number 16 were cases of prisoners in an impaired state of health when admitted to prison. There were 57 deaths in all the other prisons, and one sentence of capital punishment was carried out.

The net cost of the prisons amounted to 13,362*l.* 17*s.* 0½*d.*, or 15*l.* 4*s.* 0½*d.* per prisoner per annum, the figures for the previous 12 months being 13,149*l.* 7*s.* 0¼*d.* and 17*l.* 0*s.* 2½*d.* respectively. The gross earnings in cash were 5,372*l.* 12*s.* 1*d.*

JAMAICA.

The estimated value of labour yielding no return in money was 5,458*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.*, in the preceding 12 months it was 4,028*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.*,

The prisoners were, as usual, employed in making bricks and tiles, burning lime, quarrying stone, and in washing and repairing clothing for the prison and for other public institutions, as well as for private parties.

The value of the washing and repairing done was 1,073*l.* 10*s.* 7*d.*, or 388*l.* 9*s.* 8*d.* more than the previous 12 months.

School was regularly held in the General Penitentiary and in the Saint Catherine, Falmouth, and Hanover District Prisons.

Religious services were conducted regularly at the General Penitentiary by the chaplains of the different denominations attached to the institution, as well as in the St. Catherine, Hanover, and Falmouth District Prisons and the Middlesex and Surrey County Gaol. No regular provision exists for the religious instruction of the prisoners in the Short Term Prisons at Black River and Port Antonio but they are visited occasionally by the local clergy.

Discipline was well maintained in all the prisons, very little corporal punishment was required, and was only inflicted in cases of violent assaults on officers. The "mark system" introduced into the General Penitentiary in October 1888 worked satisfactorily.

Vital Statistics.

The total estimated population on 31st March 1891 was 645,377, but by the census taken five days later it was found to be actually 639,491.

The natural increase by excess of births over deaths was for the half-year to 31st March 1890, 2,403, or 7·5 per 1,000 persons living, and for the year to 31st March 1891 was 8,467, or 13·2 per 1,000 of population, which is about the mean rate of increase, and may be considered satisfactory, as an epidemic of whooping cough caused 3,621 deaths during the period.

The births registered amounted to 11,275 to 31st March 1890, giving a rate of 35·6 per 1,000 of population, and during the year to 31st March 1891 to 24,507, being 38·4 per 1,000 of population; the proportions of illegitimate births being 61·6 and 60·7 respectively which, I regret to say, are the heaviest rates on record.

The marriages registered were 1,860 to 31st March 1890, and 3,560 to 31st March 1891; the number of marriages in the year has thus increased since 1881–2 when it was 2,026, the rate per 1,000 of population being in that year 3·4, whereas it now is 5·5.

The per-centage of illiterate persons among those married is 56·3.

The deaths registered were 8,872 to 31st March 1890, or 25·0 per 1,000 of population, and 16,040 to 31st March 1891, or 28·0 per 1,000.

The death rates for these periods are higher than any since 1880–81, and the records of causes of deaths show that then as now the excessive mortality was due to an epidemic of whooping cough

In the Cayman Islands the total number of births was 283 and of deaths 73, while 44 marriages were registered ; the proportions to 1,000 of population being of births 45·6, of deaths 10·0, and of marriages 6·6.

General.

The period under review has been one of unusual interest and importance in the history of the Island. In the report on the Blue Book for 1888–89 it was stated that a period of depression closed with the year 1887–88, and that it was anticipated that the then new-born prosperity would be maintained and would increase. These anticipations have been fully realised, as the preceding summary of the reports of the several public departments show. The revenue of the Colony has largely increased, the expenditure having been kept within reasonable limits, while both the imports and exports are larger than in any year of the past decade.

The cultivation of the sugar cane continues to diminish, but not so fast as the fruit trade increases, and there is a growing desire to devote more attention than has hitherto been given to the cultivation of the minor products and to the introduction of new economic plants. The immigration system has been placed on a new and satisfactory basis, and it may therefore fairly be hoped that the want of steady labour, which has for so long proven a serious obstacle in the way of the larger cultivators of the soil, will gradually but certainly cease to be felt.

But perhaps the most satisfactory feature of the past year is the attention which has been drawn to the Island in other parts of the world. This has been due to a great extent to the Exhibition opened at Kingston on the 27th of January last by H.R.H. Prince George of Wales.

The opening ceremony itself was attended by many strangers and by some distinguished persons, and throughout the period of three months during which it remained opened the Exhibition was visited by many from across the seas.

Convinced as I am that Jamaica needs only to be better known to become a favourite resort of the tourist in search of scenes of interest and beauty, of the invalid fleeing from the rigours of a northern winter, and of the settler in search of good land, a healthy climate, and perfect protection of property, the presence of so many visitors during the period referred to cannot fail to be of the greatest advantage to the Colony.

In order to encourage the influx of visitors as much as possible, the Jamaica Hotels Law of 1890 was passed, by which the Government guarantees the debentures of companies formed under its provisions. As a result five new hotels conducted on proper principles have been erected.

An important step in the direction of improving the means of communication throughout the Island was taken during the year by the passing of Law 17 of 1890, which provides for the transfer

to the Public Works Department of a considerable proportion of the parochial roads in each parish, hitherto under the management of the local boards. This will not only ensure the principal roads being kept in a condition of perfect repair, but, by relieving the parochial boards of the burden of their maintenance, while in no way reducing the revenue available for road purposes, will enable them to improve those roads which still remain under their care, and to construct new roads in districts where the want of means of communication has been much felt.

The extension of the railway, which, in accordance with the terms of the agreement of the 29th March 1889, was transferred to an American syndicate on the 1st January 1890, is being pushed in the direction of Montego Bay in the north-west of the Island; when the line in that direction is completed the railway will be extended to Port Antonio in the north-east.

During the year a Lands Department was created with the Surveyor-General at its head; it is hoped that this will ensure more attention being given to Crown lands, forest preservation, and the protection of river sources than has hitherto been possible while the Crown Surveyor's Department was merely a branch of the Public Works Department.

Ths loyalty of the inhabitants of Jamaica has long been a striking feature in their character. It has, I am pleased to say, suffered no abatement. The enthusiastic reception given to H.R.H. Prince George of Wales by all classes of the community on the occasion of his visit to the Colony to open the Exhibition afforded ample proof of the devotion of Jamaica to the Government and person of Her Majesty the Queen.

HENRY A. BLAKE,
Governor.

King's House,
24th December 1891.

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For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

No. 18.

LABUAN.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1890.

(In continuation of Colonial Report No 111, Old Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

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1892.

[C.—6563.–2.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page.

No.	Colony.	Year.
84	Hong Kong (Further Report)	1889
85	Bahamas (Fibre Industry)	—
86	Heligoland	1889
87	Newfoundland	1888
88	Mauritius, Seychelles, and Rodrigues	,,
89	Zululand	1889
90	Gibraltar	,,
91	Grenada	,,
92	Bermuda	,,
93	St. Vincent	1888
94	St. Vincent	1889
95	Bahamas	,,
96	St. Lucia	,,
97	British Bechuanaland	1888–9
98	Turks and Caicos	1889
99	Gambia	,,
100	Straits Settlements	,,
101	St. Kitts-Nevis	1886
102	Basutoland (Governors' visit)	1890
103	British New Guinea	1888–9
104	Natal	1889
105	Malta	,,
106	British Guiana	,,
107	Barbados	,,
108	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
109	Western Australia	,,
110	Gold Coast (Agriculture)	1890
111	Labuan	1889
112	Jamaica	,,
113	Falkland Islands	,,
114	Basutoland	1889–90
115	Sierra Leone	1889
116	Fiji	,,
117	Hong Kong	,,
118	St. Helena	,,

NEW SERIES OF COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

1	British Honduras	1889
2	Mauritius	,,
3	British Bechuanaland	1889–90
4	Victoria	1889
5	Newfoundland	,,
6	British New Guinea	1889–90
7	St. Vincent	1890
8	Bermuda	,,
9	Leeward Islands	1889
10	St. Lucia	1890
11	Bahamas	,,
12	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
13	Gibraltar	,,
14	Zululand	,,
15	Sierra Leone	,,
16	Barbados	,,
17	Falkland Islands	,,

No. 18.

LABUAN.

[In continuation of Colonial Report No. 111, Old Series.]

Governor CREAGH to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, Sandakan,
British North Borneo,
April 14, 1891.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward last year's Blue Book for the Colony of Labuan.

2. On the 1st January I was installed Governor in conformity with an agreement under which Her Majesty's Government had arranged to transfer the administration of the island to the British North Borneo Company.

3. By Her Majesty's Letters Patent of 6th November 1889 (which revoke those of 28th April 1876) the Governor is empowered to make laws subject to Her Majesty's approval without the assistance of a Legislative Council, to appoint from time to time one or more Deputy Governors, to exercise such powers as the Governor may think fit to assign to them, and to appoint and remove from office all judges, magistrates, and other necessary officers.

Revenue and Expenditure.

4. The revenue collected during the year under review was $22,567, which shows an increase of $2,067 as compared with that of 1889, but falls short of the sum estimated by $429.

5. The expenditure, which exceeded that of 1889 by $9,480, amounted to $25,745, or $2,469 less than the sum estimated. This saving was chiefly effected under public works, it having been considered expedient to postpone the construction of some buildings which had been provided for in the estimates.

6. The importation of coolies for the Coal Point Mines rendered it necessary to strengthen the judicial, medical, constabulary, and gaol establishments at the beginning of the year, which partly explains the increased expenditure indicated above; but a large proportion of the $9,480 has been absorbed by recent additions to pension list.

7. From the returns it will be seen that the chief sources of revenue have been (1) opium, spirit, tobacco, and other farms.

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LABUAN.

$12,720; (2) miscellaneous receipts, $3,000; (3) land sales, and rents, $3,137; (4) fines and fees of courts, $1,115, and (5) postage, $1,003. The receipts under the two latter headings during 1889 were $307 and $776 respectively, but under the others no marked change has taken place during the year.

Public Works.

8. The fish market, police barracks, Government offices, and Government House were repaired, roads improved and planted with shade trees, buoys and beacons renewed, and a house erected for the police magistrate. As the demand for labour at Coal Point has greatly increased the cost of skilled and unskilled free labour, prisoners are now profitably employed on public works and buildings.

Legislation.

9. The following Ordinances were passed during the year:—

1. The Criminal Law Amendment Ordinance, to make further provision for the protection of women and girls.
2. The Extradition (North Borneo) Ordinance, to provide for the extradition of criminals to North Borneo.
3. The Indian Codes Adopting Ordinance, by which the following Indian Acts were adopted as laws of the Colony:—I. Penal Code; II. Criminal Procedure Code; III. Civil Procedure Code; IV. Contract Act; and V. Evidence Act.
4. Criminal Procedure Amendment Ordinance.
5. The Delivery of Mails Ordinance.
6. The Port and Harbour Ordinance.
7. The Infant Wives Protection Ordinance.

Civil Establishment.

10. Mr. A. S. Hamilton, the Acting Governor, having been appointed Deputy Governor under clause X. of Her Majesty's Letters Patent of the 6th November 1889, continued to act in that capacity until 2nd March, when he retired on pension.

Mr. F. G. Callaghan, who was appointed Police Magistrate in February, was subsequently made Acting Resident and Deputy Governor, the acting appointment of Police Magistrate being conferred on Mr. P. F. Wise, who retained it till the end of the year. Mr. Callaghan having obtained six months' leave on urgent private affairs in May was relieved by Mr. C. P. Gueritz, who performed the duties of Acting Resident and Deputy Governor till 31st December. Mr. Apothecary Leach, joined the service on 16th July, was in medical charge till the end of the year.

Pensions.

11. The only change during the year was the addition of Mr. A. S. Hamilton's name to the long list of pensioners.

Imports and Exports

12. The imports consist chiefly of raw sago, sago flour, rice, and other provisions from the Straits Settlements, together with cloth, gutta, and coal; while the principal exports are sago, flour, coal, gutta, and rattans. The falling off in the export trade shown in the subjoined table is chiefly due to the low price of sago; but it is believed to be partly accounted for by the fact that while the returns for former years were based on estimates prepared after the departure of vessels those for the year under review have been carefully compiled from ships' manifests:—

Year.	Exports.	Imports.
	$	$
1888 - - - -	357,954	419,546
1889 - - - -	357,282	244,414
1890 - - - -	335,376	207,878

Shipping.

13. Ships of war, yachts, and steam launches are not included in the following return of shipping for the last five years:—

Year.	Ships entered.		Ships cleared.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
1886 - -	107	26,139	108	26,097
1887 - -	116	31,689	115	31,626
1888 - -	129	37,455	127	37,495
1889 - -	192	63,860	191	62,885
1890 - -	196	57,856	193	56,894

The 193 vessels cleared during the year were all steamers; 156 were British, 25 North Borneo, 6 German, and 6 Sarawak; 80 of

LABUAN.

them were bound for Singapore, 109 for North Borneo, Palawan, and Hong Kong, and 4 for Sarawak. Most of the vessels calling at Labuan are engaged in the North Borneo trade and ply regularly between the ports of that state, Singapore and Hong Kong, making Labuan a port of call. During the year the Colony was visited by three of Her Majesty's ships and the French frigate "Chasseur."

Labour.

14. The average price of unskilled labour is 30 cents to 35 cents for Malay and 40 cents for Chinese coolies. Domestic servants' wages are from $8 to $12 a month and Chinese carpenters, blacksmiths, and masons earn from 60 cents to $1 a day.

Market Prices.

15. The prices of some of the articles in common use are as follows:—Beef, 20 cents; mutton, 50 cents; pork, 15 cents; rice, 3 cents; tea, 35 cents; sugar, 15 cents per pound. Milk 10 cents a bottle. Horned cattle from $10 to $20, ponies from $15 to $60, and sheep from $10 to $12 each.

Gaol.

16. The total number of admissions during the year was 29 and the daily average was 7·35 and the daily average on the sick list, 0 82. Of the above total 17 were sentenced to rigorous imprisonment for three months or less, and 11 to rigorous imprisonment for less than one year.

17. The prison at present consists of one large associate ward, but a new building is now under construction in which classification and separation will be possible.

Offences.

18. The following tables show the number of cases reported to the police and the number brought to trial during 1890:—

No. of Cases reported.	Offences against Person.	Offences against Property.	Other Offences.
125	43	42	40

Offence.	No. of Persons		
	Discharged.	Summarily Convicted.	Committed for Trial.
Offences against person - - -	6	34	3
Do. do. property - -	8	9	3
Other offences - - - -	4	35	1
Total No. of persons summoned or apprehended - -	18	78	7

Table showing the Number of Summary Convictions for Various Offences and the Punishment inflicted.

Punishments.	Total No. of Offences.	Assault and other Offences against the Person.	Offences against Property other than Malicious Injuries to Property, or Prædial Larceny.	Offences against Revenue, Highway, Health and other Acts, relating to the Social Economy of the Colony.	Other Offences.
Fine - - -	48	26	10	7	5
Peremptory imprisonment -	28	7	7	1	13
Whipping -	1	1	—	—	—
Bound over with or without sureties, or other trivial punishment -	1	1	—	—	—
Total - -	78	35	17	8	18

19. I subjoin a comparative statement of police and court work during the last four (4) years; the increase of crime indicated in

LABUAN.

the last column is due to the large number of Malay and Chinese coolies now employed at the Coal Point Mines.

	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.
The number of offences reported to the police	56	50	30	125
The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the Magistrates	19	42	45	103
The number of summary convictions :—				
1. For offences against person	8	6	17	34
2. For offences against property, other than prædial larceny	3	5	7	9
3. For other offences	3	10	8	35
The number of convictions in the superior courts :—				
1. For offences against property, other than prædial larceny	3	2	2	—
2. For other offences	—	—	—	3
The number of persons acquitted :—				
1. In the inferior courts	2	8	—	14
2. In the superior courts	—	2	—	4
Total	94	125	109	327

Hospital.

20. The number of persons admitted to hospital during the year was 151 and the daily average 7·61; of these 23 died, 89 cured, and 23 relieved. The average stay of each patient in hospital was about 10 days.

The prevailing maladies were ulcers, fevers, wounds, and rheumatism. The majority of patients were Chinese. The hospital is partly supported by private subscriptions and donations, but chiefly by a Government grant. The Colony was free from epidemics, and on the whole the health of the inhabitants was good.

General.

21. A school was opened by the Rev. Mr. Dresden of the Mill Hill (Roman Catholic) Mission, and another commenced on a site near the Government offices by the Rev. Mr. Elton, chaplain of Sandakan. The former establishment is supported wholly by private subscriptions, but the Government contributes a small annuity to the latter.

22. Marked progress has been made at the Coal Point Mines, which were re-opened during the year by the Central Borneo Company. A tramway of about two miles in length between the mines and the wharf has been completed, and another commenced which is to connect the oil springs with Victoria, a distance of about six

or seven miles. This Company has also completed several buildings and chartered a steam collier of 1,500 tons to ply regularly between this Colony and Singapore. During the year 2,800 tons of coal were exported to the Straits Settlements in this vessel. On the 31st December the Company's local establishment consisted of five Europeans and 1,400 coolies.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. V. CREAGH,
Governor of North Borneo
and Labuan.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.,
&c. &c.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 31.

LAGOS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1889.

(For Report for 1888 *see* Colonial Report No. 80, Old Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.



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1892.

[C.—6563.–15.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

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No.	Colony.	Year.
104	Natal	1889
105	Malta	,,
106	British Guiana	,,
107	Barbados	,,
108	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
109	Western Australia	,,
110	Gold Coast (Agriculture)	1890
111	Labuan	1889
112	Jamaica	,,
113	Falkland Islands	,,
114	Basutoland	1889–90
115	Sierra Leone	1889
116	Fiji	,,
117	Hong Kong	,,
118	St. Helena	,,

NEW SERIES OF COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

1	British Honduras	1889
2	Mauritius	,,
3	British Bechuanaland	1889–90
4	Victoria	1889
5	Newfoundland	,,
6	British New Guinea	1889–90
7	St. Vincent	1890
8	Bermuda	,,
9	Leeward Islands	1889
10	St. Lucia	1890
11	Bahamas	,,
12	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
13	Gibraltar	,,
14	Zululand	,,
15	Sierra Leone	,,
16	Barbados	,,
17	Falkland Islands	,,
18	Labuan	,,
19	British Honduras	,,
20	Basutoland	1890–91
21	Trinidad and Tobago	1890
22	Leeward Islands	,,
23	Grenada	,,
24	Straits Settlements	,,
25	British Guiana	,,
26	St. Helena	,,
27	Mauritius	,,
28	Gambia	,,
29	Hong Kong	,,
30	Ceylon	1889

No. 31.

LAGOS.

[For Report for 1888 *see* Colonial Report No. 80, Old Series.]

SIR ALFRED MOLONEY (lately Governor of Lagos) to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, Belize,
November 15, 1891.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward my report on the Blue Book for 1889 of the Colony of Lagos.

2. I have to express my regret that the report has not been rendered at an earlier date.

The Right Hon. Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.

I have, &c.
ALFRED MOLONEY.

REPORT on the BLUE BOOK of LAGOS for the Year 1889.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The Legislature was very much to be congratulated upon the exactness with which the estimates had been prepared, with the result that the actual expenditure was 57,488*l.* 1*s.* 2*d.* as compared with 58,363*l.* 18*s.* 11*d.*, the amount of the estimates noted under Ordinance No. 6 of 1888.

The actual revenue of the year reached 57,633*l.* 3*s.* 8*d.* against the estimated amount which was 57,395*l.* These figures show an excess by 238*l.* 3*s.* 8*d.* of the former over the latter.

Accordingly the actual revenue and expenditure for 1889 stood as 57,633*l.* 3*s.* 8*d.* to 57,488*l.* 1*s.* 2*d.*, with the result of a surplus of 145*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* on the year's transactions.

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The following is a comparative statement of revenue for the years 1888 and 1889:

Heads of Revenue.	1888.	1889.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Customs	48,240 8 0	48,297 0 1	56 12 1	—
Sale of Government property	95 14 1	285 18 6	190 4 5	—
Land sales	49 4 0	280 1 0	230 17 0	—
Postal revenue	1,064 6 9½	1,066 17 8	2 10 10½	—
Stamp duties	—	89 9 6	89 9 6	—
Rent of land	311 14 8	287 11 3	—	24 3 5
Licenses	1,458 5 0	1,534 16 0	76 11 0	—
Fees of office	184 14 9	197 5 9	12 11 0	—
Fines, forfeitures, and fees of court	820 0 0	904 2 1	83 17 8	—
Miscellaneous	3,043 11 10	2,926 7 6	—	117 4 4
Reimbursements, &c.	293 6 11½	358 1 9	64 14 9½	—
Interest on investments	1,348 1 3	1,405 12 7	57 11 4	—
Overpayments refunded	148 5 2	—	—	148 5 2
£	—	—	864 19 8	289 12 11

The following shows comparatively the expenditure for the years 1888 and 1889:—

Establishments and Services.	Expenditure.			
	1888.	1889.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Salaries, fixed	28,344 17 5	17,702 12 0	—	10,642 5 5
Do., provisional and temporary	3,150 14 4	3,866 2 3	715 7 11	—
Allowances	1,384 18 1	1,121 3 6	—	263 14 7
Contingencies	740 16 1	363 0 8	—	377 15 5
Governor	23 12 0	35 8 7	11 16 9	—
Treasury	1 7 6	111 16 2	110 8 8	—
Customs	3,076 10 2	2,951 14 0	—	124 16 2
Post office	582 0 0	631 14 7	49 4 3	—
Public Works and Survey	6,771 12 2	7,841 12 6	1,070 0 4	—
Marine:—				
Harbour master	386 12 10	251 9 9	—	135 3 1
Government vessels	6,306 13 11	1,690 0 4	—	4,616 13 7
Judicial	64 0 9	57 10 6	—	6 10 3
Charitable	54 4 4	44 17 7	—	9 6 9
Educational	735 12 6	1,076 12 2	340 19 8	—
Constabulary	485 0 5	9,377 1 1	8,892 0 8	—
Prisons	957 0 0	865 9 5	—	91 10 7

Establishments and Services.	Expenditure.			
	1888.	1889.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Medical - - - - -	715 18 9	890 18 1	176 19 4	—
Sanitary - - - - -	278 14 10	419 18 6	141 3 8	—
Rent - - - - -	257 8 10	229 15 5	—	27 13 5
Transport - - - -	1,501 7 7	1,502 5 2	—	0 17 7
Aborigines - - - -	1,733 5 1	1,897 2 11	163 17 10	—
Miscellaneous - - - -	1,943 2 7	2,499 10 10	556 8 3	—
Pensions - - - -	1,346 3 5	2,060 5 0	714 1 7	—
£	60,840 3 11	57,488 1 2	12,943 6 6	16,295 9 3

Public Debt.

The Colony has no public debt. The liabilities of the Government on the 31st December 1889 amounted to 7,416*l.* 3*s.* 8*d.*, and its assets to 43,235*l.* 9*s.* 3*d.* Its credit balance on the close of 1889 was accordingly 35,819*l.* 5*s.* 7*d.*, as will be observed from the following statement:—

Assets.	Amount.	Liabilities.	Amount.
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Cash in Treasury on 31st December -	958 17 11	Deposits - -	6,836 13 1
Remittances in Transit to Crown Agents -	2,500 0 0	Balance due to Crown Agents 31st December - - -	579 10 7
Advances due to the Colony - -	1,318 2 10	Excess of assets -	35,819 5 7
Investments - -	38,458 8 6		
£	43,235 9 3	£	43,235 9 3

The investments of the Colony on the 31st December 1889 are detailed hereunder:—

Stock.	Cost in Sterling.
	£ s. d.
Canada debentures General - - - - -	11,124 0 0
Ceylon debentures - - - - - -	4,900 0 0
New South Wales Inscribed Stock - - - -	10,855 14 5
Victoria Inscribed Stock - - - - -	6,414 13 10
Victoria (Depreciation fund, Government vessels) - -	2,114 0 3
Ceylon debentures (Treasury Savings Bank) - - -	2,050 0 0
New South Wales Inscribed Stock (Treasury Savings Bank) -	1,000 0 0
£	38,458 8 6

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The Government is its own insurer as regards its steam craft. In the foregoing statement appears accordingly the sum of 2,114*l.* 0*s.* 3*d.*, made up of a regular annual investment of 500*l.*

The deposits in the Treasury Savings Bank for which, on the 31st December, the Colony was liable to the public, came to 3,423*l.* 4*s.* 1*d.* Of this amount 3,050*l.* appears among the investments of the Government.

Legislation.

The following Ordinances have been passed during the year by the Local Legislature, and have had extended to them the Royal Assent:—

No. 1.—An Ordinance to prevent the Adulteration of Produce.

No. 2.—An Ordinance to extend the application of the Spirit License Ordinance, 1875.

No. 3.—For the more effectual regulation and better management of public hospitals and dispensaries.

No. 4.—To allow and confirm certain Expenditure for the Service of the Colony of Lagos for the year 1888.

No. 5.—To amend the law relating to the Registration of Births and Deaths and the Regulation of Burials.

No. 6.—To regulate Weights and Measures.

No. 7.—To make further and better provision concerning Custom House landing-places and charges in respect of the use thereof.

No. 8.—For promoting the revision of the Statutory Law.

No. 9.—To amend the Supreme Court Ordinance.

No. 10.—To enable the Government in certain cases to pay the expenses connected with the foreign trial of criminals.

No. 11.—To legalise the past payment of good conduct pay to members of the Constabulary and to provide for its future payment.

No. 12.—To provide for the safe keeping of Petroleum and other inflammable and dangerous substances.

No. 13.—To amend the Merchandise Marks Ordinance, 1888.

No. 14.—To provide for the Service of the Colony during the year 1890.

No. 15.—To amend the law as to the remuneration of Customs Officers for extra services.

No. 16.—To indemnify the sender for the loss of or damage to a parcel sent by Parcel Post between the United Kingdom and the Colony.

No. 17.—To delay the coming into operation of the Births, Deaths, and Burials Ordinance, 1889.

No. 18.—To delay the coming into operation of the Weights and Measures Ordinance.

Alien Children.

During 1889, 230 alien children were registered in the Colony, no less than 56 tribes being represented. Egba supplying 29, Ijesha 16, Ibadan 15, Popo 17, Yoruba 14, Jebu 13.

Of these 190 were registered at Lagos, 19 at Badagry, and 21 at Leckie, 122 being males and 108 females.

As against the above figures for 1889, 233 children were registered in 1888, 118 being males and 115 females. Fifty-two tribes were represented.

Pensions and Gratuities.

The expenditure under the above heading totalled 2,060*l.* 5*s.* as compared with 1,346*l.* 3*s.* 5*d.* in previous year.

The following pensioners died during 1889:—Sir James Marshall, formerly Chief Justice of the Gold Coast and Lagos; Mr. M. J. Brown, formerly Colonial Secretary of the Gold Coast and Lagos; Mr. Charles Foresythe, formerly Treasurer of Lagos, and Mr. Robert Palmer, gravedigger. The pension list was accordingly reduced in the year considerably. The annual reduction represented thereby will be 411*l.* 3*s.* 10*d.* There was one pensioner, Mr. E. G. Woolhouse, late Treasurer of the Colony of Lagos, added to the list. In the year the sum of 76*l.* 18*s.* 7*d.* was paid to him as alimentary allowance. His actual pension has been fixed at 75*l.* 18*s.* 8*d.*

A compassionate and conditional allowance of 200*l.* per annum has been made to Prince Oyekan, son of the late ex-King Docemo, and the grant was allowed to count from the death of Docemo, viz., 17th February 1885. Hence exceptional addition in 1889 of 773*l.* 16*s.* 3*d.* as arrears for previous years.

Ecclesiastical.

There is no State-aided Church or Colonial chaplain. There are 33 places of worship and 18 clergy.

Denomination.	No. of Clergy.	No. of Places of Worship.	No. of Persons generally attending.
Church of England - -	8	18	3,016
Wesleyan - - -	4	10	1,650
Roman Catholic - -	5	4	1,810
Baptist - - - -	1	1	75
	18	33	6,551

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Education.

The number of schools maintained during the year was 30, and the number of scholars attending 2,645. The following return gives particulars :—

Denomination.	No. of Schools.	Scholars.		Total.
		Male.	Female.	
Church of England - -	15	918	519	1,437
Wesleyan Methodist - -	6	320	185	505
Roman Catholic - - -	5	283	275	558
Baptist - - - -	4	110	35	1
	30	1,631	1,014	2,645

The Government assistance to the above is represented by the sum of 930*l.* in grants.

There are a number (48) of small Mohammedan schools, but the education imparted is confined to the Koran and tenets of the Mohammedan religion.

Newspapers.

The Government Gazette is published monthly, 300 copies being issued. Of newspapers proper there were three published at Lagos, viz., "The Mirror," "The Lagos Observer" (circulation 7,200), and the "Iwe Irohin" (circulation 6,650). "The Mirror" and "Observer" are printed in English, while the "Iwe Irohin" is in the vernacular (Yoruba) with a few paragraphs only in English.

Imports and Exports.

The report on the Blue Book for the Colony for 1887 gives the total value of the imports into and exports from Lagos from its cession in 1861 to and for 1887. The following detail is supplementary :—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Surplus of Imports.	Surplus of Exports.
	£	£	£	£
1888 - - -	442,063	508,238	—	66,175
1889 - - -	464,260	457,649	6,611	—

Since the cession of Lagos its exports have invariably exceeded considerably in value the imports.

In 1889 the latter exceeded the former by 6,611*l.* This exception is explained, fortunately, by the comparatively heavy importation last year of specie, viz., 55,535*l.* as against 43,473*l.* for the previous three years from 1886 to 1888.

In a return published in 1887 by the Government, the principal imports and exports were detailed for the period from 1876 to 1885.

The Blue Book Report for 1887 continued in the same form and detail the imports and exports for 1886 and 1887.

Like continuity and uniformity are observed in this report to meet the public convenience.

Principal Imports into the Colony of Lagos in 1888 *and* 1889.

Articles.	Direction.	1888.		1889.	
		Quantities.	Value.	Quantities.	Value.
		Galls.	£	Galls.	£
Absinthe	France	27	9	25	6
	Teneriffe	10	5	—	—
	Porto Novo	27	17	30	12
	Great Britain	—	—	26	9
	Germany	—	—	22	13
		64	31	103	40
		Pkgs.		Pkgs.	
Aerated waters	Great Britain	487	829	521	834
	Germany	73	76	173	134
	Porto Novo	9	8	70	85
	Teneriffe	20	7	—	—
	Little Popo	2	3	—	—
	Madeira	2	1	6	7
	France	—	—	38	22
	Grand Canary	—	—	5	6
		593	924	813	1,088
Ammunition	Great Britain	853	839	542	597
	Germany	354	347	305	301
	Porto Novo	7	8	12	9
	Cape Coast	1	1	—	—
	Little Popo	2	4	—	—
	Congo	—	—	10	6
		1,217	1,199	869	913

Articles.	Direction.	1888. Quantities.	1888. Value.	1889. Quantities.	1889. Value.
		Doz.	£	Doz.	£
Ale and porter -	Great Britain -	663	227	642	221
	Germany - -	3,158	921	5,419	1,480
	Porto Novo - -	2	1	1	1
	Brazils - -	4	2	—	—
	Grand Canary -	40	9	—	—
	Little Popo - -	4	2	—	—
	France - -	—	—	15	6
		3,871	1,162	6,077	1,708
		Pkgs.		Pkgs.	
Beads -	Great Britain -	89	615	224	1,511
	Germany - -	2	130	12	131
	Brazils - -	17	17	—	—
	Sierra Leone -	8	42	13	79
	Accra - -	100	350	149	671
	Porto Novo - -	4	2	2	5
	Little Popo - -	1	60	—	—
	Ahgwey - -	2	4	—	—
	Whydah - -	3	30	—	—
	Quittah - -	2	3	8	9
	River Niger -	1	1	—	—
	France - -	—	—	1	32
	Salt Pond - -	—	—	2	50
	Cape Coast - -	—	—	9	97
		229	1,254	420	2,585
		No.		No.	
Boats and canoes -	Great Britain -	2	36	3	110
	New York - -	1	10	—	—
	Germany - -	1	35	2	265
	Accra - -	2	6	—	—
	Grand Bassam -	1	3	—	—
	Forcados - -	1	1	—	—
		8	91	5	375
		Galls.		Galls.	
Brandy -	Great Britain -	98	103	86	86
	France - -	4	2	—	—
	Germany - -	75	76	117	100
	Brazils - -	—	—	1	1
	Opobo - -	—	—	17	27
	Porto Novo - -	—	—	1	1
		177	181	222	215

Articles.	Direction.	1888. Quantities.	1888. Value.	1889. Quantities.	1889. Value.
		Pkgs.	£	Pkgs.	£
Building materials.	Great Britain	4,799	6,020	5,717	6,172
	France	3	3	24	44
	Germany	1,956	3,060	1,252	2,220
	New York	—	395	—	—
	Brazils	1	3	4	5
	Sierra Leone	1	2	—	—
	Cameroon	80	31	—	—
	Porto Novo	40	25	218	173
	Bonny	3	8	—	—
		6,883	9,547	7,215	8,614
Canvas and tarpaulin	Great Britain	4	27	8	50
	Germany	1	2	11	51
	France	—	—	1	3
		5	29	20	104
Carts and carriages	Great Britain	22	364	8	42
	Brazils	2	9	—	—
	Germany	—	—	2	161
		24	373	10	203
Chemicals and drugs.	Great Britain	280	858	293	1,093
	Germany	9	41	23	52
	Brazils	7	12	8	9
	New York	5	7	—	—
	Teneriffe	1	2	—	—
	Sierra Leone	4	6	14	28
	Accra	3	3	1	1
	Las Palmas	2	9	1	1
	River Niger	—	—	11	50
	Porto Novo	—	—	3	8
		311	938	354	1,242
		No.		No.	
Cigars	Great Britain	87,350	99	20,800	28
	France	1,600	7	25,000	63
	Germany	324,685	764	209,921	575
	Brazils	47,550	124	14,850	27
	Porto Novo	1,000	6	100	1
	Teneriffe	6,000	15	7,900	18
	Little Popo	1,600	3	—	—
	Fernando Po	100	1	—	—
	Accra	100	1	160	1
	Madeira	—	—	200	1
	Cape Coast	—	—	100	1
	Congo	—	—	300	1
		469,985	1,020	279,331	716

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Articles.	Direction.	1888. Quantities.	1888. Value.	1889. Quantities.	1889. Value.
		Pkgs.	£	Pkgs.	£
Clocks and watches	Great Britain	46	211	52	220
	France	1	3	—	—
	Germany	13	130	14	208
	Brazils	4	7	1	2
	Porto Novo	1	4	—	—
	Madeira	1	3	—	—
		66	358	67	430
China and Glassware	Great Britain	163	827	129	484
	Germany	941	196	73	291
	Cape Coast	2	5	1	1
	Accra	3	5	1	2
	Kutonu	1	1	—	—
	Porto Novo	2	1	42	6
	Opobo	1	1	1	1
	Sierra Leone	1	2	3	6
	Teneriffe	1	1	—	—
	Brazils	—	—	3	4
	Madeira	—	—	1	3
	Quittah	—	—	2	1
	Benin	—	—	1	2
		1,115	1,039	257	801
		Tons.		Tons.	
Coal	Great Britain	6	5	2,316	1,173
	Germany	1,675	813	—	—
		1,681	818	2,316	1,173
		Pkgs.		Pkgs.	
Cordage	Great Britain	295	1,370	281	2,072
	Germany	3/	370	36	561
	Cape Coast	1	1	1	4
	Porto Novo	5	3	3	9
	Opobo	1	1	—	—
		339	1,745	321	2,646

Articles.	Direction.	1888. Quantities.	1888. Value.	1889. Quantities.	1889. Value.
		Pkgs.	£	Pkgs.	£
Cotton goods	Great Britain	12,739	184,298	10,823	177,067
	France	4	78	—	—
	Germany	585	8,088	262	3,912
	Brazils	5	6	1	2
	Sierra Leone	13	75	18	69
	Cape Coast	6	14	18	195
	Congo	5	13	9	9
	Porto Novo	35	149	246	3,013
	River Niger	9	84	1	1
	Goree	1	1	—	—
	New York	1	2	—	—
	Accra	9	10	7	11
	Little Popo	2	1	1	1
	Forcados	2	22	—	—
	Bonny	1	26	2	11
	Opobo	2	11	2	15
	Cameroon	1	21	—	—
	Quittah	1	1	2	1
	Benin	—	—	1	1
	Old Calabar	—	—	1	3
		13,421	192,900	11,394	184,311
Country cloths	River Niger	9	560	4	6
	Accra	2	41	1	1
	Sierra Leone	—	—	1	1
	Gambia	—	—	1	1
		11	601	7	9
		Tons.		Tons.	
Cowries	Porto Novo	10	110	33	264
	Great Britain	—	—	1	41
	France	—	—	11	247
	Mozambique	—	—	38	554
	Kutonu	—	—	$0\frac{1}{10}$	1
		10	110	$83\frac{1}{10}$	1,107
		Pkgs.		Pkgs.	
Cutlery	Great Britain	746	1,659	451	1,163
	Germany	148	363	385	763
	Brazils	1	1	—	—
	Porto Novo	2	12	7	11
	Forcados	1	2	—	—
	France	—	—	2	8
	River Niger	—	—	2	5
		898	2,037	847	1,950

Articles.	Direction.	1888. Quantities.	1888. Value.	1889. Quantities.	1889. Value.
		Pkgs.	£	Pkgs.	£
Earthenware	Great Britain	1,181	5,762	409	1,931
	Germany	8	30	17	40
	Brazils	11	14	10	17
	Porto Novo	3	13	6	3
	Sierra Leone	4	6	—	—
	Bonny	1	2	—	—
	Teneriffe	—	—	1	3
		1,208	5,827	443	1,994
Furniture	Great Britain	121	707	196	1,416
	France	4	21	—	—
	Germany	41	177	97	523
	Brazils	6	4	—	—
	Porto Novo	3	2	1	2
	Old Calabar	2	1	—	—
	New York	2	3	—	—
	Madeira	5	2	2	3
	Accra	6	8	3	3
	Las Palmas	2	15	2	4
	Opobo	1	1	—	—
	Teneriffe	2	22	1	1
	Sierra Leone	1	2	3	8
	Cape Coast	—	—	2	1
		196	965	307	1,961
		Galls.		Galls.	
Geneva	Great Britain	763	115	3,689	322
	Germany	578,366	46,120	550,185	48,894
	Porto Novo	82	11	1,041	84
	France	—	—	9,275	795
		579,211	46,246	564,190	50,095
		Brls.		Brls.	
Gunpowder	Great Britain	514	762	518	757
	France	346	617	1,041	1,367
	Germany	249	274	200	250
	Porto Novo	647	1,147	1,663	1,525
		1,756	2,800	3,422	3,899
		Pkgs.		Pkgs.	
Gold Dust	Accra	1	10	4	91
	Cape Coast	10	256	4	90
		11	266	8	181

Articles.	Direction.	1888. Quantities.	1888. Value.	1889. Quantities.	1889. Value.
		No.	£	No.	£
Guns	Great Britain	3,942	1,540	5,407	2,226
	Germany	765	352	864	378
	France	1	9	140	60
	Cape Coast	1	5	—	—
	Forcados	6	2	—	—
	Porto Novo	85	56	138	241
	Brazils	7	4	6	3
	Bonny	—	—	1	1
	Congo	—	—	16	20
		4,807	1,968	6,572	2,929
		Pkgs.		Pkgs.	
Haberdashery	Great Britain	642	6,113	780	7,532
	France	—	4	2	15
	Germany	32	176	54	298
	Brazils	18	51	34	104
	Cape Coast	5	42	16	126
	Benin	2	6	—	—
	Teneriffe	2	5	—	—
	New York	3	16	—	—
	Porto Novo	5	21	34	28
	Little Popo	2	4	—	—
	Accra	28	96	46	136
	Quittah	2	5	3	15
	Old Calabar	1	1	—	—
	Opobo	1	2	5	51
	Forcados	4	4	1	1
	Fernando Po	3	3	1	2
	Sierra Leone	12	33	20	82
	Madeira	1	1	—	—
	Gaboon	—	—	1	1
	Bonny	—	—	7	22
	Congo	—	—	66	111
	River Niger	—	—	8	15
	Whydah	—	—	1	1
	Ahgwey	—	—	2	2
	Kutonu	—	—	1	2
		763	6,583	1,082	8,544
Hardware	Great Britain	1,174	5,581	749	4,126
	France	—	1	8	145
	Germany	77	612	248	925
	Brazils	15	23	3	6
	Porto Novo	4	6	6	57
	Accra	3	5	2	2
	Old Calabar	3	5	1	1
	Grand Bassam	1	1	—	—
	River Niger	1	3	2	4
	Madeira	—	—	1	1
	Cape Coast	—	—	2	1
	Congo	—	—	2	2
	Opobo	—	—	—	1
	Sierra Leone	—	—	2	1
		1,278	6,237	1,026	5,272

Articles.	Direction.	1888. Quantities.	1888. Value.	1889. Quantities.	1889. Value.
		Pkgs.	£	Pkgs.	£
Jewellery	Great Britain	18	136	19	61
	France	1	7	—	—
	Germany	1	7	—	—
	Accra	4	46	—	—
	Cape Coast	—	—	2	26
		24	196	21	87
Kolah Nuts	Sierra Leone	109	329	74	223
	Cape Coast	141	425	79	239
	Accra	1,033	3,101	776	2,388
	Winnebah	42	128	—	—
	Salt Pond	66	201	9	31
	Bonny	1	1	—	—
	Porto Novo	4	12	—	—
	Quittah	1	2	—	—
	Opobo	1	1	15	47
	Little Popo	1	3	—	—
	Old Calabar	—	—	1	1
	River Niger	—	—	1	1
		1,399	4,203	955	2,930
Lamps	Great Britain	62	219	62	291
	Germany	10	45	33	106
	New York	1	8	—	—
		73	272	95	397
Leather	Great Britain	2	18	5	19
Machinery	Great Britain	82	288	106	407
	France	1	2	1	5
	Germany	14	43	50	174
	Brazils	8	28	7	21
	Cape Coast	3	9	—	—
	Accra	1	3	—	—
	Gaboon	—	—	1	2
	Porto Novo	—	—	5	20
		109	373	170	629
Matches	Great Britain	84	568	172	1,164
	Germany	132	588	121	496
	Porto Novo	—	—	1	1
		216	1,156	294	1,661

Articles.	Direction.	1888.		1889.	
		Quantities.	Value.	Quantities.	Value.
		Pkgs.	£	Pkgs.	£
Musical Instruments	Great Britain	16	169	28	297
	Germany	10	167	13	89
	France	1	1	—	—
	Accra	1	50	1	2
	Porto Novo	1	1	1	26
	River Niger	5	2	—	—
	Teneriffe	2	10	—	—
	Brazils	1	1	—	—
		37	401	43	414
Oakum	Great Britain	154	97	91	68
	Germany	6	8	1	1
	Brazils	—	—	1	1
	Porto Novo	—	—	2	1
		160	105	95	71
Oil — Lamp, Paint, Engine, &c.	Great Britain	141	303	981	850
	France	24	15	1	2
	Germany	447	326	3,120	1,312
	Belgium	7	14	1	1
	Porto Novo	4	25	3	8
	Las Palmas	18	22	—	—
	New York	916	214	—	—
	Grand Canary	150	63	75	30
	Forcados	29	12	—	—
	Brazils	11	3	—	—
	Madeira	21	42	—	—
	Teneriffe	11	6	—	—
	Cape Coast	—	—	12	4
	Accra	—	—	200	85
	Pram Pram	—	—	50	23
		1,779	1,045	4,443	2,315
Paint	Great Britain	294	90	167	70
	Germany	3	6	2	6
		297	96	169	76
Perfumery	Great Britain	75	266	94	149
	Germany	105	80	22	75
	Brazils	12	4	—	—
	New York	18	8	—	—
	Teneriffe	1	1	—	—
	Cape Coast	4	2	20	145
	Porto Novo	16	12	18	7
	Sierra Leone	2	4	—	—
	Accra	1	1	2	1
	Quittah	1	1	—	—
	France	—	—	6	29
	Axim	—	—	1	1
		235	379	163	407

Articles.	Direction.	1888. Quantities.	1888. Value.	1889. Quantities.	1889. Value.
		Pkgs.	£	Pkgs.	£
Photographic apparatus	Great Britain	20	52	25	123
	Accra	5	13	1	1
		25	65	26	124
Pipes, smcking	Great Britain	1,337	750	1,154	435
	Germany	114	51	407	308
	France	1	1	—	—
	Porto Novo	3	1	1	1
	Cape Coast	1	1	—	—
	Forcados	—	—	1	1
		1,456	804	1,563	745
Pitch and tar	Great Britain	68	50	34	25
	Germany	—	—	35	29
	Brazils	1	1	—	—
	Porto Novo	3	1	2	1
		72	52	71	55
		No.		No.	
Pistols and revolvers	Great Britain	566	125	112	64
	Germany	3	4	7	2
	Forcados	12	3	—	—
	Congo	—	—	1	1
		581	132	120	67
		Pkgs.		Pkgs.	
Potash	Brazils	5	8	2	2
	Benin	1	1	—	—
	Addah	4	5	—	—
	Quittah	1	1	—	—
	Accra	2	8	2	5
	River Niger	537	1,478	81	1,381
		550	1,501	85	1,388
Printing materials	Great Britain	5	24	16	139

Articles.	Direction.	1888. Quantities.	1888. Value.	1889. Quantities.	1889. Value.
		Pkgs.	£	Pkgs.	£
Provisions	Great Britain	3,796	12,177	3,259	8,687
	Germany	826	2,173	923	1,860
	France	208	89	29	45
	Brazils	70	1,064	105	647
	New York	71	80	—	—
	Jellah Coffee	3	7	—	—
	Porto Novo	57	54	144	285
	River Niger	1	1	6	1
	Little Popo	10	8	—	—
	Las Palmas	38	81	56	120
	Madeira	133	96	219	69
	Grand Canary	58	12	24	2
	Cape Coast	18	14	5	4
	Accra	67	29	39	22
	Opobo	7	2	23	7
	Quittah	42	10	33	11
	Teneriffe	84	57	7	5
	Bonny	2	5	1	1
	Forcados	6	3	—	—
	Grand Bassam	2	1	—	—
	Sierra Leone	241	290	173	189
	Gambia	1	1	2	1
	Congo	—	—	4	1
	Monrovia	—	—	1	2
	Liberia	—	—	1	4
	Tarboro	—	—	1	1
	Salt Pond	—	—	1	1
	Winnebah	—	—	5	2
		5,741	16,254	5,061	11,967
		Galls.		Galls.	
Rum	Great Britain	10,159	792	2,527	477
	Germany	723,576	31,121	709,650	33,630
	Brazils	25,537	2,314	29,201	1,439
	Porto Novo	2,022	148	2,418	196
	Old Calabar	2	1	2	1
	France	—	—	971	53
	Las Palmas	—	—	24	11
	Accra	—	—	5	4
	River Niger	—	—	12	8
		761,296	34,376	744,810	35,819
		Tons.		Tons.	
Salt	Great Britain	3,470	4,558	2,711	3,873
	Germany	1,219	2,083	1,669	3,174
	Benin	5	20	—	—
	France	—	—	44	150
		4,694	6,661	4,424	7,197
		Pkgs.		Pkgs.	
Saddlery	Great Britain	39	539	16	116
	River Niger	—	—	1	2
		39	539	17	118

LAGOS.

Articles.	Direction.	1888. Quantities.	1888. Value.	1889. Quantities.	1889. Value.
		No.	£	No.	£
Shooks	Great Britain	9,964	9,846	7,167	7,079
	Germany	1,871	1,915	2,222	2,041
	Cape Coast	7	7	1	1
	Sierra Leone		4	2	1
	France	—	—	260	113
	Belgium	—	—	85	85
	Accra	—	—	3	4
	Porto Novo	—	—	234	115
		11,846	11,772	9,974	9,439
		Pkgs.		Pkgs.	
Silk goods	Great Britain	22	906	36	1,563
	Germany	3	59	3	145
	Quittah	1	1	—	—
	River Niger	1	1	—	—
	Cape Coast	—	—	1	8
		27	967	40	1,716
Soap	Great Britain	896	258	2,728	666
	France	12	3	20	12
	Germany	3	1	206	24
	Porto Novo	18	8	—	—
	Little Popo	6	1	—	—
	Cape Coast	1	1	—	—
	Accra	—	—	1	1
	Opobo	—	—	1	1
	Porto Novo	—	—	16	12
		936	272	2,972	716
Stationery, books, &c	Great Britain	419	2,608	420	2,090
	France	3	3	2	3
	Germany	44	126	69	255
	Brazils	2	1	—	—
	New York	1	1	—	—
	Sierra Leone	3	27	10	75
	Little Popo	1	10	2	2
	Congo	1	1	—	—
	Porto Novo	4	9	7	38
	Accra	1	1	1	3
	Cape Coast	2	31	2	1
	Las Palmas	—	—	1	2
	Madeira	—	—	1	1
	Benin	—	—	1	8
		481	2,818	516	2,478
Sugar (Refined)	Great Britain	909	1,132	935	1,311
	France	2	3	2	2
	Germany	26	34	40	59
	New York	5	7	—	—
	Porto Novo	5	7	5	9
	Las Palmas	2	3	—	—
		949	1,186	982	1,381

Articles.	Direction.	1888. Quantities.	1888. Value.	1889. Quantities.	1889. Value.
		Pkgs.	£	Pkgs.	£
Sugar (Unrefined)	Great Britain	124	155	100	141
	Brazils	15	19	5	12
		139	174	105	153
Tinware	Great Britain	304	969	173	519
	Germany	5	10	4	4
	Sierra Leone	1	1	—	—
	Accra	4	4	2	1
	Porto Novo	1	5	4	1
	Bonny	1	3	—	—
	Quittah	—	—	3	1
		316	992	186	526
		Lbs.		Lbs.	
Tobacco	Great Britain	501,279	11,718	555,825	11,433
	France	2,427	75	13	3
	Germany	165,738	5,384	218,625	6,919
	Brazils	303,328	6,148	394,375	8,215
	Teneriffe	6	2	—	—
	Little Popo	6	3	—	—
	Forcados	1,760	36	—	—
	Cape Coast	2,298	57	—	—
	Porto Novo	5,716	125	8,578	177
	New York	33,660	553	—	—
	Grand Canary	—	—	8,915	139
		1,016,218	24,101	1,186,331	26,886
		Pkgs.		Pkgs.	
Wearing apparel	Great Britain	352	2,843	429	3,189
	France	4	19	5	35
	Germany	31	176	71	633
	Porto Novo	6	20	29	283
	Goree	1	1	—	—
	Brazils	11	34	2	4
	Accra	8	12	3	13
	New York	4	10	—	—
	Little Popo	2	1	1	1
	Las Palmas	4	23	—	—
	Fernando Po	3	4	—	—
	Cape Coast	2	2	3	2
	Madeira	2	12	10	74
	River Niger	7	35	4	5
	Teneriffe	8	90	—	—
	Sierra Leone	11	49	6	22
	Quittah	—	—	1	1
	Old Calabar	—	—	2	3
	Congo	—	—	1	1
		456	3,331	567	4,266

Articles.	Direction.	1888. Quantities.	1888. Value.	1889. Quantities.	1889. Value.
		Galls.	£	Galls.	£
Wines	Great Britain	1,036	648	1,421	748
	Germany	2,193	772	4,515	1,561
	Brazils	83	26	199	48
	France	430	53	408	153
	Madeira	1,234	218	1,151	189
	Porto Novo	730	124	2,413	364
	Teneriffe	65	11	16	9
	Grand Canary	44	8	18	2
	Congo	18	3	38	9
	Las Palmas	1,104	86	1,187	117
	Little Popo	12	13	—	—
	Gaboon	2	2	—	—
	Bonny	10	2	8	6
	St. Thomas	—	—	9	2
	Accra	—	—	16	16
	Opobo	—	—	18	16
	River Niger	—	—	2	1
	Forcados	—	—	2	1
	Kutonu	—	—	2	1
		6,961	1,966	11,423	3,243
		Pkgs.		Pkgs.	
Specie (gold)	Great Britain	5	1,480	8	11,689
	Germany	10	6,700	6	5,500
	Cape Coast	2	104	1	80
	Little Popo	—	—	1	6
		17	8,284	16	17,275
Specie (silver)	Great Britain	14	6,000	89	35,110
	Germany	23	9,500	7	2,600
	Cape Coast	10	1,490	3	550
	Salt Pond	1	51	—	—
	Goree	1	4	—	—
		49	17,045	99	38,260
Woollen goods	Great Britain	58	933	114	1,457
	Germany	31	338	45	631
	Congo	3	8	—	—
	Opobo	1	1	1	2
	Porto Novo	1	7	1	3
	Sierra Leone	1	2	2	2
	Accra	—	—	2	4
		95	1,289	165	2,099

	1888.		1889.	
	Quantities.	Value.	Quantities.	Value.
		£		£
Value.—Principal articles - -	—	430,098	—	460,168
Value.—Other articles - -	—	11,965	—	4,092
Total - -	—	442,063	—	464,260

Principal Exports from the Colony of Lagos in 1888 *and* 1889.

Principal Articles.	Country to which exported.	1888.		1889.	
		Quantities.	Value.	Quantities.	Value.
			£		£
Aerated and soda water.	Porto Novo - -	—	2	—	57
		Doz.		Doz.	
Ale and porter.	Porto Novo - -	678	265	1,087	296
	Elmina - -	40	13	—	-
	Cape Palmas -	—	—	24	6
	Cape Coast - -	—	—	12	5
	Gaboon - -	—	—	395	138
		718	278	1,518	445
Beads - -	Sierra Leone -	—	280	—	204
	Brazils - -	—	2	—	1
	Accra - -	—	7	—	14
	Opobo - -	—	3	—	15
	Porto Novo - -	—	312	—	—
	Cape Coast - -	—	39	—	25
	Quittah - -	—	2	—	—
	River Niger -	—	20	—	—
	Great Britain -	—	34	—	77
		—	699	—	336
		Tons.		Tons.	
Benniseed -	Great Britain -	25	187	267	1,910
	Germany - -	4	103	23	222
		29	290	290	2,132

Principal Articles.	Country to which exported.	1888. Quantities.	1888. Value.	1889. Quantities.	1889. Value.
			£		£
Building materials	Porto Novo	—	262	—	366
	River Niger	—	—	—	29
	Accra	—	1	—	1
	Forcados River	—	24	—	—
	Bonny	—	40	—	—
	Great Britain	—	—	—	9
		—	327	—	405
Calabashes	Sierra Leone	—	43	—	71
	Cape Coast	—	6	—	1
	Accra	—	4	—	15
	Brazils	—	50	—	86
	Great Britain	—	2	—	—
	Gambia	—	—	—	1
		—	105	—	174
Chemicals and drugs	Porto Novo	—	9	—	31
	River Niger	—	—	—	7
	Little Popo	—	3	—	—
	Brazils	—	2	—	—
	Sierra Leone	—	30	—	—
	Great Britain	—	—	—	8
		—	44	—	46
		No.		No.	
Cigars	Porto Novo	25,000	64	44,250	107
	Sierra Leone	—	—	1,000	3
		25,000	64	45,250	110
Clocks and watches	Porto Novo	—	3	—	27
	Bonny	—	2	—	—
	Great Britain	—	18	—	17
		—	23	—	44
China and glassware	Accra	—	6	—	—
	Cape Coast	—	108	—	—
	Porto Novo	—	12	—	51
	Quittah	—	10	—	11
	Brazils	—	7	—	—
	Little Popo	—	—	—	3
	Germany	—	—	—	13
	Great Britain	—	—	—	10
		—	143	—	88
Coals	Porto Novo	—	—	10	25

Principal Articles	Country to which exported.	1888. Quantities.	1888. Value.	1889. Quantities.	1889. Value.
		lbs.	£	lbs.	£
Cocoa	Great Britain	3,738	117	2,994	69
	Germany	—	—	50	1
		3,738	117	3,044	70
		Cwts.		Cwts.	
Coprah	Great Britain	2	2	5	3
		Galls.		Galls.	
Cordials	Porto Novo	132	50	169	42
		lbs.		lbs.	
Cotton—raw	Great Britain	203,687	3,657	427,742	7,158
	Germany	27,741	365	55,208	865
	Brazils	56	3	—	—
		231,484	4,025	482,950	8,023
Cotton goods	Porto Novo	—	12,630	—	16,409
	Great Britain	—	1	—	101
	Accra	—	4	—	2
	Sierra Leone	—	—	—	45
	River Niger	—	3	—	326
	Quittah	—	—	—	166
	Opobo	—	30	—	—
	Brazils	—	1	—	10
	Bonny	—	2	—	37
	Cape Palmas	—	—	—	2
	Elmina	—	321	—	—
		—	12,992	—	17,098
Country cloth	Opobo	—	299	—	473
	Accra	—	1,575	—	2,356
	Addah	—	10	—	—
	Cape Coast	—	828	—	1,141
	Sierra Leone	—	1,485	—	2,484
	Sherbro	—	13	—	—
	Gambia	—	—	—	8
	Grand Bassam	—	—	—	109
	Quittah	—	1,158	—	1,745
	Great Britain	—	1	—	—
	Brazils	—	3,367	—	2,306
	New Calabar	—	10	—	20
	Salt Pond	—	—	—	26
	Senegal	—	—	—	2
		—	8,746	—	10,670

Principal Articles.	Country to which exported.	1888. Quantities.	1888. Value.	1889. Quantities.	1889. Value.
		Tons.	£	Tons.	£
Cowries	Porto Novo	33	228	1	41
	Brazils	$\frac{1}{10}$	5	—	—
	Sierra Leone	$\frac{1}{20}$	1	$\frac{7}{20}$	5
		$33\frac{3}{20}$	234	$1\frac{7}{20}$	46
Earthenware	Porto Novo	—	237	—	194
	Great Britain	—	1	—	—
	Sierra Leone	—	—	—	1
	Cape Coast	—	1	—	1
		—	239	—	196
Furniture	Porto Novo	—	9	—	6
	Sierra Leone	—	45	—	20
	Cape Coast	—	—	—	3
		—	54	—	29
		Galls.		Galls.	
Geneva	Porto Novo	170,773	14,316	144,817	13,469
	Kroo Coast	476	54	230	26
	Forcados River	350	23	1,625	200
		171,599	14,393	146,672	13,695
		lbs.		lbs.	
Gum	Great Britain	34,548	387	76,929	635
	Germany	14,357	148	33,837	501
		48,905	535	110,766	1,136
Gunny bags	Porto Novo	—	—	—	76
		Brls.		Brls.	
Gunpowder	Porto Novo	100	116	69	100
	Kroo Coast	11	20	33	48
		111	136	102	148
		No.	£	No.	£
Guns, pistols, and revolvers.	Porto Novo	1,220	449	1,900	726
	Great Britain	—	—	20	46
	Cape Palmas	—	—	2	1
		1,220	449	1,922	773

Principal Articles.	Country to which exported.	1888. Quantities.	1888. Value.	1889. Quantities.	1889. Value.
			£		£
Haberdashery	Porto Novo	—	29	—	92
	Great Britain	—	28	—	9
	River Niger	—	—	—	4
	Brazils	—	—	—	1
	Accra	—	5	—	—
	Opobo	—	—	—	7
		—	62	—	113
Hardware	Great Britain	—	—	—	34
	Porto Novo	—	224	—	212
	River Niger	—	—	—	5
	Quittah	—	—	—	35
	Accra	—	15	—	—
	Germany	—	—	—	9
	Opobo	—	—	—	10
		—	239	—	305
		Lbs.		Lbs.	
Hides	Great Britain	1,975	44	—	—
	Germany	7,258	211	6,870	102
		9,233	255	6,870	102
India rubber	Great Britain	567	41	502	27
Ivory	Great Britain	8,180	2,375	11,447	3,366
	Germany	5,179	1,632	2,195	727
		13,359	4,007	13,642	4,093
Jewellery	Great Britain	—	420	—	1
	Accra	—	—	—	10
		—	420	—	11
			£		£
Kolah Nuts	Brazils	—	1,525	—	1,167
	River Niger	—	—	—	120
	Sierra Leone	—	42	—	37
		—	1,567	—	1,324
Matches	Porto Novo	—	301	—	371
atchets	Porto Novo	—	402	—	66

Principal Articles.	Country to which exported.	1888. Quantities.	1888. Value.	1889. Quantities.	1889. Value.
		Galls.	£	Galls.	£
Oil—palm	Great Britain	1,835,366	93,828	1,566,409	88,381
	Portugal	—	—	91,166	6,083
	Germany	450,585	21,529	546,833	31,823
	France	64,393	3,204	77,965	3,898
	Brazils	52,192	2,600	55,503	2,842
	Whydah	44,170	2,207	—	—
	Kutonu	—	—	11,130	696
		2,446,706	123,368	2,349,011	133,723
		Tons.		Tons.	
Palm Kernels	Great Britain	9,424	66,392	7,040	50,683
	France	5,031	35,125	1,305	8,842
	Germany	28,474	209,402	24,250	179,652
	Portugal	310	2,250	60	390
	Spain	—	—	60	420
	Whydah	286	1,716	—	—
		43,525	314,885	32,715	239,987
Perfumery	Porto Novo	—	9	—	30
	New Calabar	—	—	—	20
		—	9	—	50
		Ton.		Ton.	
Potash	Sierra Leone	1	47	1½	115
		Cwt.		Cwts.	
	Accra	1	2	5	3
		Cwts.			
	Brazils	3	6	—	—
				Cwts.	
	Cape Coast	—	—	2	2
		Ton Cwts. 1 4	55	Ton Cwts. 1 17	120
Provisions	Cameroons	—	30	—	43
	Accra	—	13	—	206
	Sierra Leone	—	79	—	—
	Bonny	—	1	—	—
	Brazils	—	77	—	42
	Little Popo	—	4	—	—
	Great Britain	—	1	—	4
	Porto Novo	—	442	—	912
	River Niger	—	—	—	3
	Quittah	—	2	—	—
		—	649	—	1.210

Principal Articles.	Country to which exported.	1888. Quantities.	1888. Value.	1889. Quantities.	1889. Value.
			£		£
Provisions	Elmina	—	102	—	—
	Opobo	—	—	—	56
	Cape Coast	—	—	—	24
		—	102	—	80
		Galls.		Galls.	
Rum	Porto Novo	136,368	5,594	130,680	5,352
	Sierra Leone	42	9	—	—
	Little Popo	240	20	—	—
		136,650	5,623	130,680	5,352
		Tons.		Tons.	
Salt	Porto Novo	394	1,087	272	864
Shea butter	Cape Coast	—	853	—	648
	Brazils	—	134	—	283
	Accra	—	182	—	419
	Opobo	—	—	—	1
	Sierra Leone	—	30	—	42
	Great Britain	—	1	—	—
		—	1,200	—	1,393
Shooks	Porto Novo	—	730	—	350
	Portugal	—	9	—	—
	Germany	—	—	—	1
		—	739	—	351
Soap	Accra	—	2	—	1
	Brazils	—	295	—	318
	Cape Coast	—	2	—	1
	Sierra Leone	—	3	—	—
	Porto Novo	—	6	—	6
	Quittah	—	1	—	3
		—	309	—	329
Specie	Great Britain	—	150	—	206
	Porto Novo	—	300	—	1,250
		—	450	—	1,456
Straw or fibre	Brazils	—	159	—	97

Principal Articles.	Country to which exported.	1888. Quantities.	1888. Value.	1889. Quantities.	1889. Value.
		Lbs.		Lbs	£
Tobacco	Porto Novo	313,994	7,302	456,486	9,185
	Cape Coast	50	2	—	—
	Brazils	125	4	—	—
	Elmina	6630	248	—	—
		320,799	7,556	456,486	9,185
Twine or cordage	Porto Novo	—	102	—	105
Wearing Apparel	Porto Novo	—	61	—	—
	Great Britain	—	2	—	—
	River Niger	—	2	—	11
	Quittah	—	—	—	2
	Sierra Leone	—	—	—	20
		—	65	—	33
		Galls.		Galls.	
Wines	Porto Novo	669	133	868	241
	Cape Palmas	—	—	2	2
		669	133	870	243
Woollen Goods	Accra	—	10	—	44
	Sierra Leone	—	—	—	1
	Porto Novo	—	34	—	26
	Quittah	—	23	—	61
	Little Popo	—	—	—	6
		—	67	—	138
Yellow Metal	Great Britain	—	48	—	109
Other articles		—	391	—	545
Total value of principal and other articles		—	508,238	—	457,649

Return showing quantities and value of goods shipped to Porto Novo under Bond Transit Duties, and also on goods, Duty paid, on which Drawback could be claimed.

Articles.	1888.		1889.	
	Doz.	£	Doz.	£
Ale and porter	678	265	1,086	296
Beads	—	312	—	—
Building materials	—	262	—	366
Chemicals and drugs	—	9	—	31
China and glassware	—	12	—	51
	No.		No.	
Cigars	25,000	64	44,250	107
Clocks and watches	—	3	—	27
			Tons	
Coals	—	—	10	25
Cordage	—	102	—	105
	Galls.		Galls.	
Cordials	132	50	169	42
Cotton goods	—	12,630	—	16,409
	Tons		Tons	
Cowries	33	228	1	41
Earthenware	—	237	—	194
Furniture	—	9	—	6
	Galls.		Galls.	
Geneva	170,773	14,316	144,817	13,469
Gunny bags	—	—	—	76
	Brls.		Brls.	
Gunpowder	100	116	69	100
	No.		No.	
Guns	1,220	449	1,900	726
Haberdashery	—	29	—	92
Hardware	—	224	—	212
Instruments, musical	—	—	—	21
Matches	—	301	—	371
Matchets	—	402	—	66
Perfumery	—	9	—	30
Potash	—	—	—	—
Provisions	—	442	—	912
	Galls.		Galls.	
Rum	136,368	5,594	130,680	5,352
	Tons		Tons	
Salt	394	1,087	272	864
Shooks	—	730	—	350

Articles.	1888.		1889.	
		£		£
Silk Goods - - -	—	—	—	—
Soap - - - -	—	6	—	6
Soda water - - -	—	2	—	57
Specie - - - -	—	300	—	1,250
Tobacco - - - -	Lbs. 313,994	7,302	Lbs. 456,486	9,185
Wearing apparel - - -	—	61	—	—
Wines - - - -	Galls. 669	133	Galls. 868	241
Woollen Goods - - -	—	34	—	26
Other Articles - - -	—	109	—	391
Total - -	—	45,829	—	51,497

Shipping.

Steam monopolises now almost all the carrying trade to and from the Colony. Visits of sailing ships are becoming fewer and fewer.

In 1889 no British sailing vessel entered. In 1888 there was one entry of 393 tons and a crew of 10. In 1888 foreign sailing vessels that entered represented a tonnage of 5,020, and in 1889 of 4,146, while those that cleared represented 5,603 and 4,146 tons respectively.

The number of steam vessels entered in 1888 was 421, with a tonnage of 259,748, and for 1889 383, with a tonnage of 249,071. There cleared in the former year 413, with a tonnage of 254,700, and in the latter year 382, with a tonnage of 248,154. Of British steam vessels that entered in 1888 the tonnage was 188,730 against 71,018 foreign. The figures for 1889 were 185,015 against 64,056. Of British steam vessels that cleared in 1888 the tonnage was 183,258 against 71,442 foreign. The figures for 1889 were 183,617 against 64,537.

Figures returned annually from the data furnished by importers and exporters to the Customs as the value of imports and exports are misleading when accepted, as is erroneously done, as representing the volume of trade.

The great increase of carrying power at the port of Lagos points more accurately and conclusively to the volume of trade.

The tonnage of steam vessels that entered and cleared from 1878 to 1889 was as follow:—

Year.	Tonnage.
1878	293,142
1879	290,074
1880	324,008
1881	294,817
1882	313,680
1883	352,303
1884	356,921
1885	396,630
1886	427,466
1887	503,775
1888	514,443
1889	497,225

For the same years the tonnage of sailing vessels that entered and cleared was as follows:—

Year.	Tonnage.
1878	69,580
1879	68,034
1880	55,350
1881	37,277
1882	39,808
1883	37,492
1884	26,650
1885	36,320
1886	20,926
1887	14,868
1888	11,409
1889	8,292

Tonnage of Steam Vessels Entered and Cleared in the Colony of Lagos in the Years 1888 *and* 1889.

ENTERED.

Year.	Tonnage.		Total.
	British.	Foreign.	
1888	188,730	71,018	259,748
1889	185,015	64,056	249,071

CLEARED.

1888	183,258	71,442	254,700
1889	183,617	64,537	248,154

LAGOS.

British Sailing Vessels Entered and Cleared in the Colony of Lagos in the Years 1888 *and* 1889.

ENTERED.

Year.	With Cargoes.			In Ballast.			Total.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.
1888 - -	—	—	—	1	393	10	1	393	10
1889 - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

CLEARED.

888 - - -	1	393	10	—	—	—	1	393	10
889 - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Foreign Sailing Vessels Entered and Cleared in the Colony Lagos in the Years 1888 *and* 1889.

ENTERED.

Year.	With Cargoes.			In Ballast.			Total.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.
1888 - -	19	5,020	174	—	—	—	19	5,020	174
1889 - -	14	4,146	139	—	—	—	14	4,146	139

CLEARED.

1888 - - -	21	5,603	194	—	—	—	21	5,603	194
1889 - - -	14	4,146	144	—	—	—	14	4,146	144

British Steam Vessels Entered and Cleared in the Colony of Lagos in the Years 1888 *and* 1889.

ENTERED.

Year.	With Cargoes.			In Ballast.			Total.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.
1888 - -	206	184,564	8,298	11	4,166	342	217	188,730	8,640
1889 -	187	182,140	8,005	10	2,875	267	197	185,015	8,272

CLEARED.

1888 - - -	198	179,278	8,146	12	3,980	361	210	183,258	8,507
1889 - - -	177	177,360	7 5	17	6,257	525	194	183,617	8,114

Foreign Steam Vessels Entered and Cleared in the Colony of Lagos in the Years 1888 *and* 1889.

ENTERED.

Year.	With Cargoes.			In Ballast.			Total.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.
1888 - - -	194	67,948	5,254	10	3,070	248	204	71,018	5,502
1889 - - -	172	61,423	4,045	14	2,633	243	186	64,056	4,288

CLEARED.

1888 - - -	154	65,172	4,047	49	6,270	923	203	71,442	4,970
1889 - - -	147	62,046	3,664	41	2,491	691	188	64,537	4,355

Agriculture.

The state of agriculture remained the same; the staple product being palm oil and kernels. As the palm requires, or at all events receives, no attention beyond the gathering of the crop no improvement in its cultivation can be reported.

LAGOS.

Owing to the work of the botanic station it may be hoped that in time new articles for export will be produced in the future.

From January to the end of the year 21,915 coffee plants and 3,638 cacoas were distributed from the garden, while many other plants of economic value were either sold to or gratuitously distributed among the natives.

Seeds of Egyptian and American cotton, anatto, &c. were likewise distributed. In the same period the sum of 93*l.* 13*s.* 11*d.* was received for plants, seeds, and vegetables sold.

It may be fairly hoped and expected that the agricultural prospects of the Colony will be much enhanced by the efforts made by the botanic station to establish among the natives new plants of commercial value, and to introduce more valuable species of plants now existing, *e.g.* cotton.

Gaols and Prisoners.

The total number of prisoners admitted was 308, including two women and four juveniles. Of these, 195 had been previously convicted.

The sanitary state of the prison was good, the daily average of inmates being 134 and the daily average on the sick list being five. There were within the prison walls two deaths during the year from natural causes.

The escapes of prisoners while employed beyond the gaol were two; the same as in 1887 and 1888.

The total cost of the prison was 1,836*l.* 14*s.* 4*d.*

During the year the sum of 830*l.* 9*s.* 2*d.* was expended on the erection of solitary cells, under a general scheme for the improvement, or rather reconstruction, of the prison.

The earnings of the prisoners were as follows:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Bricklaying - - -	447	13	6
Bookbinding - - -	73	3	0
Carpentering - - -	88	16	0
Mat and basket making -	110	9	6
Rope making - - -	71	17	0
Tailoring - - -	15	13	0
Miscellaneous - - -	202	8	0
OUT-DOOR.			
Public works - - -	21	1	8
Roads, streets, and bridges -	158	12	9
Sanitary - - -	81	18	0
Transport - - -	41	11	7
Miscellaneous - - -	20	18	7
	£1,334	2	3

Criminal Statistics.

From the following comparative table it will be seen that there is a marked decrease in the number of convictions for offences against the person, and also a decrease in convictions for offences against property; while the total number of persons apprehended or summoned is less by 20 than in 1888.

Comparative Table showing the number of Offences, Apprehensions, Convictions, and Acquittals for the last four years.

—	1889.	1888.	1887.	1886.
Number of offences reported to the police - -	22	25	28	12
Number of persons apprehended by police, or summoned before magistrate.	708	728	880	715
Number of summary convictions—				
1. For offences against the person - -	86	136	188	102
2. For cattle stealing and arson - -	10	13	8	6
3. For offences against property other than cattle stealing and arson.	81	89	85	80
4. For other offences - - - -	105	126	134	111
Number of convictions in Superior Court—				
1. For offences against the person - -	23	15	36	37
2. For cattle stealing and arson - -	1	—	—	—
3. For offences against property other than cattle stealing and arson.	19	38	32	27
4. For other offences - - - -	8	17	14	9
The number of persons acquitted—				
1. In the Inferior Courts - - -	270	255	250	255
2. In the Superior Courts - - -	36	26	26	30

Of the 308 prisoners, 150 were Heathen, 104 Mohammedans, and 54 Christians. Three Europeans were imprisoned. The number of prisoners discharged was 184.

LAGOS.

Criminal Statistics

Statement showing the number of Committals during the Years 1888 *and* 1889.

	1888.	1889.
District Commissioner's Court - -	364	351
Superior Court - - - -	70	87
Inspector General - - - -	56	25
Political prisoners - - - -	—	—
Total - - -	480	463

A.

Criminal Statistics 1888–89.

Year.	Total Number of Offences reported.	Offences against the Person.	Cattle Stealing and Arson.	Offences against Property other than Prædial Larceny.	Other Offences.
1888 - - -	25	3		22	—
1889 - -	22	—	—	22	—
Total -	47	3	—	44	—

B.

Apprehensions and Summonses, and Disposition of foregoing Cases.

Year.	Number Discharged for Want of Prosecution.	Number of Cases dismissed on the Merits.	Number of Persons summarily Convicted.	Number of Cases committed for Trial in the Superior Courts.
1888 - -	177	88	483	85
1889 - -	179	91	351	87
Total -	356	179	834	172

C

Distribution under Offences of Summary Conviction.

Year.	Assaults and other Offences against the Person.	Malicious Injuries to Property.	Cattle Stealing and Arson.	Other Offences to Property.	Offences relating to Social Economy.	Offences against Master and Servant Acts.	Other Offences.	Total.
1888 -	136	1	13	88	42	9	75	264
1889 -	92	—	9	81	21	15	62	280
Total -	228	1	22	169	63	24	137	544

D.

Punishment in connexion with foregoing.

Year.	Fine.	Imprisonment in lieu of Fine or Surety.	Peremptory Imprisonment.	Whipping.	Bound over with or without Sureties or other Minor Punishment.	Total.	Remarks.
1888 -	189	14	147	—	14	364	
1889 -	129	4	118	—	29	280	
Total -	318	18	265	—	43	644	

E.

Informations in the Supreme Court.

Year.	Murder, other than Wife and Child Murder.	Manslaughter.	Attempt to Murder.	Murder of Wife, reputed Wife, or Concubine.	Child Murder.	Concealment of Birth.	Abortion.	Rape.	Unnatural Crimes.	Other offences against the Person.	Malicious injuries to Property.	Robbery with Violence.	Cattle stealing and Arson.	Other offences against Property.	Miscellaneous Offences.	Total.
1888	1	3	1	—	—	—	—	3	—	18	—	7	—	44	19	96
1889	1	5	1	—	—	—	—	5	—	24	2	—	1	26	22	87

F.

Statement as to ending of Cases tried in the Supreme Court.

Year.	Judgment for the Crown.	Judgment for the Prisoner.	Prisoners found Insane.	Case fell through for want of Prosecution or Nolle Prosequi entered.	Total.	Remarks.
1888 - -	70	20	2	4	96	
1889 - -	51	13	0	23	87	

G.

The Number of Offences, Apprehensions, Convictions, and Acquittals for the Years 1888–1889 *are afforded in the following Comparative Table:—*

Headings.	1888.	1889.
Apprehensions - - -	728	708
Convictions - - -	434	333
Acquittals - - -	291	306

Hospitals.

The hospital accommodation consists of the Colonial Hospital and the Ereko Dispensary. The latter was opened during the year, and rules for its regulation were passed by the Legislative Council on the 7th November. On the 14th February an Ordinance was passed "For the more effectual regulation and better "management of public hospitals and dispensaries."

During the year 2,940 out-patients were treated, while the in-patients numbered 642; 57 of the latter being Europeans.

In addition to the above, five cases of leprosy were treated in the Contagious Diseases Hospital.

The number of deaths recorded is 44.

No case of small-pox occurred.

5,911 persons were vaccinated. Of the inoculations 4,203 are reported as successful, 809 as unsuccessful, and 899 did not return.

Lunatics are not treated in the Colony, there being no asylum.

Under Ordinance No. 3 of 1885 provision is made for their removal to Kissy Asylum (Sierra Leone), the expenses of transport, detention, and treatment being defrayed by the Colony.

The Meteorology of the Colony of Lagos for the Year 1889.

Months.	Barometer.	Air Temperature.									Vapour Tension.			Relative Humidity.		
	Mean Pressure.	At 8 a.m.	At 4 p.m.	Mean.	Means of		Mean Daily Range of Temperature.	Mean Temperature.	Absolute Temperature.		At 8 a.m.	At 4 p.m.	Mean.	At 8 a.m.	At 4 p.m.	Mean.
					Minimum.	Maximum.			Minimum on Date.	Maximum on Date.						
January -	30·05	79	84	81	75	83	8	79	69 on 23.	91 on 31.	·881	·8605	·870	87	73·4	80·2
February -	30·05	81	85	83	77	85	8	81	71 on 22.	91 on 21.	·846	·696	·771	83	70	76
March -	30·05	84	86	85	78	87	9	82	70 on 17.	91 on 19, 20, 21, 27, 28.	·880	·800	·840	79	77	78
April - -	30·05	83	85	84	76	86	10	81	69 on 19, 20, 21.	91 on 1, 3, 8.	·858	·874	·866	77	71	74
May - -	30·06	82	84	83	75	85	10	80	69 on 18.	89 on 1, 2, 4, 5.	·882	·858	·870	80	78	79
June - -	30·05	78	81	79	72	82	10	77	68 on 16.	88 on 5, 7, 17.	·884	·824	·854	81	76	78
July - -	30·05	77	78	77	71	79	8	75	68 on 27 & 28.	86 on 3.	·808	·791	·799	86	80	83
August -	30·05	77	79	78	71	79	8	75	68 on 2, 9, 24, 31.	84 on 16.	·783	·760	·771	83	76	79
September -	30·05	73	79	76	71	79	8	75	65 on 4.	84 on 30.	·782	·731	·756	84	78	81
October -	30·05	78	80	79	71	81	10	76	65 on 5.	87 on 26, 30, 31.	·826	·801	·813	85	76	80
November -	30·05	78	81	79	71	85	14	78	65 on 26.	91 on 22.	·797	·777	·787	81	65	73
December -	30·05	77	85	81	75	85	10	80	73 on 18, 21, 22, 25, 26.	90 on 1, 5, 25.	·871	·854	·862	91	70	80

o 69730.

The Meteorology of the Colony of Lagos for the Year 1889—continued.

Months.	Amount of Cloud.			Weather.				Rainfall.		Direction of Wind.									
	At 8 a.m.	At 4 p.m.	Mean.	No. of days of				Total.	Maximum on Date.	No. of Observations of									
				Rain.	Thunder Storms.	Clear Sky.	Overcast.			North.	North East.	East.	South East.	South.	South West.	West.	North West.	Calm.	Total.
January -		4	4	2	—	3	1	1·65	1·64 on 22nd.	3	—	1	—	6	16	16	—	—	—
February -	5	4	4	4	—	2	—	1·09	·55 on 23rd.	4	—	—	—	8	15	11	—	—	—
March -	5	5	5	3	—	1	1	·39	·19 on 6th.	—	—	—	1	6	21	10	1	—	—
April - -	5	6	5	8	—	—	—	6·62	2·11 on 18th.	5	—	1	—	8	24	13	—	—	—
May - -	5	5	5	11	—	—	—	10·94	2·70 on 12th.	5	—	—	—	7	24	23	—	—	—
June - -	5	6	5	12	—	—	—	15·18	5 in. on 21st.	3	3	—	—	3	25	21	1	—	—
July - -	5	4	4	10	—	—	—	10·18	2·50 on 24th & 26th.	—	—	—	—	5	25	14	1	—	—
August -	4	4	4	8	—	—	—	1·89	·95 on 31st.	—	—	—	—	2	26	20	4	—	—
September -	6	6	6	10	—	—	—	3·66	1 in. on 26th.	—	—	—	1	—	25	17	6	—	—
October -	7	7	7	13	—	—	—	9·07	2 in. on 7th & 22nd.	6	8	2	—	6	19	9	7	—	—
November -	7	7	7	4	—	—	—	1·29	·80 on the 5th.	15	7	—	—	6	18	4	4	—	—
December -	7	7	7	1	—	—	—	·03	·03 on 11th.	16	4	—	—	7	22	3	9	—	—

W. R. HENDERSON,
Acting Colonial Surgeon.

Savings Bank.

There is one savings bank at Lagos, which was established under authority of Ordinance No. 3 of 1886.

The number of depositors on the 31st December was 111. The sum of 2,707*l.* 14*s.* 2*d.* was deposited, and 1,442*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* withdrawn, during the year. The total amount standing to the credit of depositors on the same date was 3,423*l.* 4*s.* 1*d.*, of which 3,050*l.* is invested as shown in the statement of Investments of the Colony. The rate of interest allowed on deposits is 2½ per cent.

(Signed) ALFRED MOLONEY,
Governor,
British Honduras.

Belize,
15th November 1891.

LONDON: Printed by EYRE and SPOTTISWOODE,
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For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

No. 32.

LAGOS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1890.

(For Report for 1889 *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 31.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

LONDON:
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1892.

[C.—6563.–16.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

No.	Colony.	Year.
105	Malta	1889
106	British Guiana	,,
107	Barbados	,,
108	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
109	Western Australia	,,
110	Gold Coast (Agriculture)	1890
111	Labuan	1889
112	Jamaica	,,
113	Falkland Islands	,,
114	Basutoland	1889–90
115	Sierra Leone	1889
116	Fiji	,,
117	Hong Kong	,,
118	St. Helena	,,

NEW SERIES OF COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

1	British Honduras	1889
2	Mauritius	,,
3	British Bechuanaland	1889–90
4	Victoria	1889
5	Newfoundland	,,
6	British New Guinea	1889–90
7	St. Vincent	1890
8	Bermuda	,,
9	Leeward Islands	1889
10	St. Lucia	1890
11	Bahamas	,,
12	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
13	Gibraltar	,,
14	Zululand	,,
15	Sierra Leone	,,
16	Barbados	,,
17	Falkland Islands	,,
18	Labuan	,,
19	British Honduras	,,
20	Basutoland	1890–91
21	Trinidad and Tobago	1890
22	Leeward Islands	,,
23	Grenada	,,
24	Straits Settlements	,,
25	British Guiana	,,
26	St. Helena	,,
27	Mauritius	,,
28	Gambia	,,
29	Hong Kong	,,
30	Ceylon	1889
31	Lagos	,,

No. 32.

LAGOS.

(For Report for 1889 *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 31.)

Governor CARTER to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, Lagos.
November 7, 1891.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1890, accompanied by an interesting Report from the Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. T. CARTER,
Governor.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

Colonial Secretariat, Lagos,
November 7, 1891.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit the Blue Book for the year 1890, and to offer the following explanatory remarks upon its contents.

2. In its preparation I have been much assisted by Mr. Henry Carr, Chief Clerk in the Secretariat, who has carried through almost the whole compilation with but few references to me.

Taxes, Duties, and Fees.

3. No new taxes were introduced during the year. Ordinances requiring dogs to be licensed and providing for the levying of light dues were, however, passed by the Legislature, but their operation was postponed until 1891.

Revenue and Expenditure.

4. The balance to the credit of the Colony on the 1st of January amounted to 35,819*l.* 5*s.* 7*d.* The revenue collected was 56,340*l.* 13*s.* 1*d.*, and the expenditure for the year amounted to 63,700*l.* 16*s.* 2*d.* The balance, therefore, carried forward from the 31st of December was 28,459*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*

5. The revenue was slightly below that for 1889, but it exceeded the estimate by 58*l.* 13*s.* 1*d.*

LAGOS.

6. The expenditure contemplated by the Supply Ordinance for 1890 was 57,924*l.* 9*s.* 8*d.*; the estimate was therefore exceeded by 5,776*l.* 6*s.* 6*d.* This increase was due to the carrying out of certain public works, notably the lighthouse, at a cost of 4,086*l.* 14*s.* 11*d.*; survey of Lagos, 1,183*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*, and also to purchase of property, special ammunition for machine guns, and sundry other items not sanctioned until the year had actually commenced; these together amounted to 10,819*l.* 15*s.*

Public Works.

7. The most important public work taken up during the year was the erection of a lighthouse at Abekun, near the Government Sanitarium. A better class of light for Lagos was much needed, and this undertaking may be considered a decided success.

8. The construction of the Marina Embankment was continued, 387⅓ yards of it being completed at a cost of 1,540*l.* 15*s.* 7*d.*

9. The survey of Lagos Island by a detachment of the Royal Engineers under Lieutenant Buckland was commenced, and a sum of 1,575*l.* was expended in the purchase of two properties, viz., a block of land with buildings on it adjoining the Treasury and Customs compound, and that known as the Colonial Surgeon's quarters.

10. The vote "Current repairs, additions, alterations, and maintenance of Government buildings" was responsible for 833*l.* 17*s.* 1*d.*, and 573*l.* 8*s.* 4*d.* was devoted to the "Upkeep of roads, streets, and bridges."

11. In the out-districts 235¼ miles of unmetalled road connecting the different towns and villages were cleared and kept open by the Native Chiefs in return for the stipends which they receive from the Government.

Government House.

12. The new Government House has not yet been commenced, but the plans have been approved, and the necessary expenditure authorised, and it is hoped that the new building will be completed by the autumn of 1893. The present structure has been described too often to need any further comment from me.

13. It will be necessary to erect a new house at Badagry very shortly, but that at Leckie is in fair order, and, with some trifling repairs, will last for many years.

Councils.

14. The only new permanent appointment was that of Mr. John Dalziel Fairley to the Legislative Council on the 27th of June. Messrs. William Hammond and Charles James George were, however, re-appointed, and the latter took the customary oath on the 24th of October. Captain Hammond, who has been absent from the Colony since the 3rd of June, has not yet subscribed to the oath.

15. The Councils were presided over by Captain Denton from the 1st of January to the 20th of February, and from that date to the end of the year by Sir Alfred Moloney.

16. The other appointments mentioned in the Blue Book were of a temporary nature and need no comment.

Legislature.

17. During 1890 10 Ordinances were passed by the Legislature, and in due course they received the Royal Assent.

No. 1.—An Ordinance to amend the Births, Deaths, and Burials Ordinance, repeals sections 14, 39, 42, 62, and 65 of the principal Ordinance, and amends it in the following particulars:—(*a*) In default of the parent makes the master or other officer in charge responsible for the registration of children who are born in vessels upon the territorial waters of the Colony; (*b*) requires that no body of a deceased person or still-born child shall be buried until an order shall have been made by the coroner, or a certificate have been granted by the Registrar, and provides that all burials shall take place within 24 hours of the issue of such order or certificate; (*c*) enacts that no burial shall take place in any district except in a licensed cemetery; (*d*) imposes a penalty not exceeding 20*l.* for any breach of the provisions relating to burials; and (*e*) substitutes for the penalties laid down in section 65 of the original Ordinance a term of imprisonment with or without hard labour not exceeding five years.

Ordinance No. 2 repeals a portion of section 14 of Ordinance No. 10 of 1876, providing for the payment of fees to the Assistant Collector of Customs for extra services.

Ordinance No. 3 repeals section 117 of Ordinance No. 10 of 1876, and enacts that the exporters of goods for which no bond is required shall within 14 days make entry of them, or in default forfeit a penalty of 20*l.*

Ordinance No. 4, entitled "An Ordinance to establish and "regulate an Inland Colonial Post Office," deals with all matters connected with the inland post of the Colony.

Ordinance No. 5 makes further provision concerning the application of the laws of the Colony to adjacent territories, and legalises the exercise of jurisdiction in the past by the courts of the Colony in such territories.

Ordinance No. 6, "The Supplementary Supply Ordinance, 1889."

Ordinance No. 7 ordains that any persons keeping dogs shall take out a license for each dog at a cost of 2*s.* 6*d.*, provides for the seizing, selling, or destruction of dangerous dogs, and gives power to the District Commissioner to restrict dogs being at large when danger from mad dogs is apprehended.

Ordinance No. 8 was passed to regulate dealings in arms and ammunition, and prohibits, amongst other things, their sale, &c. by unlicensed persons under a penalty not exceeding 100*l.*

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Ordinance No. 9, "The Supply Ordinance, 1890," legalises an expenditure of 57,339*l.* 9*s.* 4*d.* for the service of the year 1891.

Ordinance No. 10 provides for the levying of light-dues and the protection of lights, buoys, and beacons. Under it a duty of 2*s.* 6*d.* for the first 25 tons and 2*s.* for every additional 25 tons of portion thereof of a vessel's registered burden is required to be paid to the principal officer of Customs. Branch steamers, *i.e.*, steamers belonging to the port which bring cargo and passengers over the bar, are, however, exempted from the payment of these dues. It is expected that a revenue of between 700*l.* and 800*l.* a year will be received from this source.

Civil Establishment.

18. The Government of the Colony was administered by Captain G. C. Denton, the Colonial Secretary, from the 1st of January to the 20th of February, and from that date to the end of the year by the Governor, Sir Alfred Moloney.

Six months' leave of absence, which was afterwards extended to nine months, was granted to Captain G. C. Denton, the Colonial Secretary, from the 28th of February, and during the absence of this officer the duties of Colonial Secretary were discharged by the Hon. Oliver Smith, Queen's Advocate.

The Hon. Oliver Smith, Queen's Advocate, returned from leave on the 26th of February and resumed his duties.

The Hon. W. J. P. Elliott, Treasurer, returned from leave on the 16th of August.

Mr. H. M. B. Griffith, Collector of Customs, in addition to his legitimate duties, acted as Treasurer from the 1st of January to the 11th of June, when he was granted leave of absence for six months. The acting appointments of Treasurer and Collector were taken over by Mr. E. H. Richards, District Commissioner, who held them until the arrival of the Hon. W. J. P. Elliott on the 16th of August.

M. J. A. Rowse performed the duties of Colonial Surveyor from the 1st of January to the 27th of August, on which date Mr. Frank Anderson, the Colonial Surveyor, returned from leave of absence.

Captain Speeding, Harbour Master, proceeded on six months' leave of absence on the 16th of August, his duties being taken over by Captain A. J. Shuttleworth, Master of Government vessels.

Chief Justice Smalman Smith returned from leave on the 8th of June. During his absence Mr. E. H. Richards acted as Chief Justice.

For the year the following officers held the post of District Commissioner of Lagos:—Mr. G. B. Haddon Smith, 1st January to 22nd February; Mr. G. Stallard, 22nd February to 7th June; Mr. Alvan Millson, 7th June to 18th August, Mr. R. S. Johnstone, 18th August to 31st December.

Dr. Rowland was absent from the Colony from the 28th of February to the 7th of December, and for this period Dr. W. R. Henderson acted as Colonial Surgeon.

Vital Statistics.

19. During the year 268 births, 61 marriages, and 1,211 deaths were registered, but this cannot be accepted as any guide, registration not being compulsory. Of the 1,211 who died only 5 were Europeans. From the recent census the population of the Colony and Protectorate is approximately 85,607. The town of Lagos was not found to be nearly so large as was anticipated, as only 32,508 inhabitants were enumerated against 37,452 in 1881. Of this number 142 were of either pure European or American blood. At the same time it is right that I should point out that it is not thought that the population of the town has decreased, the falling off being considered to be due to a more effectual enumeration brought about by a better system of payment to the enumerators. It is also well known that large numbers of the people left the town to avoid the census, of which they have a great dread, brought about by the idea that it will eventually mean increased taxation.

Banks.

20. The Treasury Savings Bank which was established in 1886 is much appreciated. On the 31st of December there were 181 depositors, and the total of the deposits amounted to 5,863*l.* 0*s.* 7½*d.* The deposits are increasing rapidly.

Ecclesiastical.

21. There were in the Colony 33 places of Christian worship, made up as follows:—Church of England, 18; Wesleyan, 10; Roman Catholic, 4; and Baptist 1, with an average attendance estimated at 6,551 persons. They are almost entirely dependent on missionary bodies in Europe and America, with the exception of the churches belonging to the Lagos Church Pastorate, which are, to a certain extent, self-supporting.

Education.

22. The number of schools in the Colony amounted to 47, and of these 41 received aid from the Government. The number on the rolls stood at 3,085, and there was a total average attendance of 2,155 scholars.

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The Government aid amounted to 1,013*l.* 10*s.*, and was granted in the following proportion :—

Number of Scholars.	Number of Schools.	Denomination.	Amount received.
			£ *s.* *d.*
1,738	25	Church of England - - -	553 4 6
611	8	Roman Catholic - - - -	334 16 6
646	12	Wesleyan - - - -	104 15 0
90	2	Baptist - - - - -	20 14 0
3,085	47	4	1,013 10 0

There can be no question but that the number of pupils is on the increase, but there is still room for great improvement. No successful means of reaching the Mohammedan section of the population has yet been arrived at, and they continue to hold aloof from the denominational schools and will not as yet allow their own schools to be brought under Government inspection. As I have said in a previous report on this subject,* time alone can bring about improved conditions of education, and I have great hopes that as the older and more conservative of the Mohammedans pass away, the new generation which is springing up may grasp the advantages which are to be derived from a good education, and abandon the idea now held by many of them that it is not good for their children to know more than themselves.

Judged from a pecuniary point of view, the present scheme of payment by results, which was introduced into the Colony in 1888, has been very satisfactory. The following comparative statement shows that both the number of pupils and the aid given have largely increased under it, and I take it that these are sound criterions of success.

	Number of Schools.	Number of Scholars.	Grant.
			£ *s.* *d.*
1887 - -	31	2,657	604 0 0
1888 - -	26	2,363	735 0 0
1889 - - -	30	2,645	1,076 12 2
1890 - - -	47	3,085	1,013 10 0

There are, of course, objections to the system, but in a country where the teachers as a rule require stimulating even more than

* See page 8 of Colonial Report No. 80 (Old Series) [C. 5897–10], February 1890.

the pupils, the benefits derived from the additional energy which it throws into the teaching outweigh, in my opinion, the disadvantages which may arise from undue cramming, &c., &c.

On the 24th of December the second exhibition of school work was held. The exhibits, which were of a very creditable description, numbered 850, and 20 schools were represented at it. Large numbers, by their presence, showed great interest in the exhibition, and the attendance of the non-English-speaking native element was especially good. It is hoped that it will be found possible to continue this exhibition on more extended lines as it has undoubtedly given considerable stimulus to education.

In another building adjoining the main Exhibition Hall exhibits from the Public Works Department, Prison, and printing office were on view. These included examples of turning in metal and wood, castings, sawing, prepared fibres in various stages, brush making, mat and basket making, rope making, and book-binding, as well as printing work. This Exhibition was as well attended as that of the school products and quite as much interest was evinced in it.

Imports and Exports.

23. The value of the imports for the year 1890 amounted to 500,828*l.*, or 56,270*l.* more than the average of the 10 preceding years.

Of this sum, spirits were estimated to be worth 81,492*l.*, wines 2,258*l.*, tobacco 16,745*l.*, and cotton goods 194,322*l.*

Exports also improved during the year, as their estimated value was 595,193*l.*, as against an average of 558,464*l.*, for the 10 preceding years. The principal articles and quantities were palm oil 3,200,824 gallons, valued at 190,257*l.*, and palm kernels 38,828 tons, estimated as worth 319,276*l.*

From this it will be seen that the trade of the Colony is healthy, and as the improvement, to even a more marked extent, continues, it may, I submit, be fairly said that the efforts to develop the interior country behind Lagos have not been fruitless.

Agricultural.

24. It is impossible to arrive at any accurate conclusion with regard to the area of cultivated land in the Colony and Protectorate, but, judging by the large quantities of yams, maize, guinea corn and other provisions which are sold in the neighbouring markets, it must be very considerable. There was a good sale of Liberian coffee from the Botanic Station, and some plantations of it have been established on the mainland near Ebute Metta.

The sales of land were five in all, but as payment was by instalment, the actual revenue received from this source during the year was small.

Botanic Station.

25. The establishment of this institution has been attended with great success, and it is proving of much use to the surrounding

country. On the 31st of December there were 37,972 different plants growing in pots ready for distribution, and 328 different specimens permanently established in the garden. During the year 91*l.* 6*s.* was received for the sale of plants and vegetables, and 7,848 Liberian coffee seedlings were issued on payment to the public.

The number of visitors to the Botanic Station during the year was 252.

Gaols and Prisons.

26. The new prison is not yet completed; 93 cells on the solitary system are, however, in use, and another block containing 38 cells will be finished during 1891. The entire prison with necessary out-buildings, &c., is expected to be ready for occupation early in 1893.

In addition to the prison at headquarters there are district prisons at Badagry and Leckie, where prisoners who have been summarily convicted of crimes committed within the district are confined for periods of three months and under. They cannot be considered satisfactory places of punishment, and in my opinion it is advisable that they should be abolished. Should this be done all sentences of imprisonment could be inflicted in Lagos, a strong police lock-up being all that would be necessary at the out-stations.

The extreme penalty of the law was carried out on one occasion, and in nine instances penal servitude for more than five years was imposed.

On the whole, it may be said that whilst the convictions in 1890 outnumbered those in 1889 and 1888 the acquittals were fully 33 per cent. less than in the years named.

Hospitals.

27. For so large a place the daily average attendance at the Lagos hospital is small, but as the institution becomes more known and appreciated it will no doubt be better attended. The building leaves much to be desired; the site, however, is excellent and the administration very good. A new hospital is to be commenced at once, and when it is completed Lagos will hold its own with any of the smaller colonies in this direction.

A special feature of the Medical Department in this Colony is a dispensary, which was established in 1889, in the more populous part of the town. Far more outdoor patients are treated at this institution than at the Colonial hospital, and it has undoubtedly given relief to large numbers of the poorer classes.

During the year the health of the community was good and there was no sickness of an epidemic nature.

General.

28. The only events which call for special comment were a mission to Yoruba Land by Mr. Alvan Millson, Assistant Colonial Secretary, and the arrival at an agreement between England and

France under which the western boundary of the Colony is fixed and the French and English spheres of influence defined.

With regard to Mr. Millson's expedition to the interior, which had for its object the arrangement of a meeting between the Governor of Lagos and representative delegates from Ilorin and Ibadan for the purpose of discussing the best means of terminating the war that has been carried on between the tribes named for so long a time, it was not altogether successful, as the Ilorins declined to treat in any way with our representative. Notwithstanding this, much good was in my opinion effected by it, and I feel convinced that a closer and more stable connexion with the peoples of the interior can only be brought about by visits of this nature from British officers.

The agreement with France has so far proved satisfactory to the Colony, and in the kingdom of Pokra, which we received in exchange for Ketonu, we have a rich and fertile country that should eventually prove a great source of wealth to Lagos.

Under existing circumstances it is impossible to arrange for the collection of import duties on the Addo and Adjarra rivers in an effectual manner, but when the definitive Customs Agreement contemplated by the fifth section of Article IV. of the principal Agreement is arrived at a very fair revenue should be derived from this part of the Colony and Protectorate.

Retrospective.

29. As the Blue Book now under report completes the series for the first five years since Lagos was erected into a separate Colony, it may not be out of place if I briefly describe the conditions which have existed and what has been effected during that period.

The revenue has averaged 55,174*l.* as against 51,810*l.* for the preceding five years, and expenditure has been 63,204*l.* as against 43,057*l.*

The only new duty introduced is that imposed under Ordinance No. 4 of 1888, entitled "An Ordinance for granting certain stamp duties." The revenue received from this source has been but small, and at the present rate of collection does not exceed 200*l.* per annum.

A fair amount of legislation has been put through during the five years, as no less than 54 Ordinances, irrespective of rules, have been passed by the Legislative Council. Some of these are important and lengthy enactments, which imposed considerable work on members, and the thanks of the community should be given to the unofficial element for the free, ungrudging manner in which they devoted no inconsiderable a portion of their valuable time to the public interests.

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Civil Establishment.

30. When Lagos was erected into a separate Colony in February 1886 Mr. C. A. Moloney, C.M.G., was appointed Administrator In May 1887 the title of the officer administering the Government was altered to Governor, but no change in the holder of the position was made. Mr. F. Evans, C.M.G., was the first Colonial Secretary of the new Colony; he was however, promoted in 1888, and Captain G. C. Denton succeeded him.

The assistant Colonial Secretaries were Mr. Henry Higgins, from January 1886 to 31st August 1889, and Mr. Alvan Millson, from 1st September 1889.

Mr. Oliver Smith, who was appointed Queen's Advocate in May 1886, still continues in the office.

The position of Treasurer was held by Mr. Woolhouse from 1st of July 1886 to August 1889, and from the latter date to the end of 1890 by Mr. W. J. P. Elliott.

The Collectors of Customs during the period under report were Mr. Worall, Mr. Elliott, and Mr. H. M. Brandford Griffith.

Mr. Edmund Peel was Inspector-General of Constabulary from the 15th of July 1886 to the 31st of December 1890. Previous to the former date no appointment to this office had been made.

Mr. Moran was the first Inspector of Constabulary, but he was transferred to the Gold Coast Mr. Higginson being sent from the Gambia to take his place. Assistant Inspectors Tarbet and Haddon Smith were appointed in October and November 1886 respectively and still continue to hold office.

Dr. Grant, who died in July 1887, held the office of Colonial Surgeon from the date of the erection of the Colony until his death. He was succeeded by Dr. Rowland.

The following officers held the permanent appointment of Assistant Colonial Surgeon:— Dr. Cecil Digby from 16th May 1886 to the end of January 1889; Dr. Edward Mattei from May 1886 to November 1888, and Dr. W. R. Henderson from 5th November 1889 to the present date.

Drs. Johnson and Randle, Native Assistant Colonial Surgeons, were appointed on the 1st of May 1889 and continue to hold office.

In November 1885 Mr. G. H. Ross was appointed Colonial Surveyor. He died in August 1888, and Mr. Frank Anderson, Assistant Colonial Surveyor, was promoted to the position which became vacant by the death of Mr. Ross.

Mr. Smalman Smith was sole Judge of the Colony from its separation from the Gold Coast until he was appointed Chief Justice; this latter office he still holds.

Vital and Sanitary Statistics.

31. It is impossible to furnish any reliable information on this point as far as the native population is concerned; I therefore

propose to confine my remarks to the Europeans and Americans living in Lagos. The average annual number of residents from 1881 to 1885 was 107; the average number of deaths for the same period was $8\frac{3}{5}$ per annum; the death rate was therefore as nearly as possible 8 per cent. Calculations on a similar basis show that from 1886 to 1890, inclusive, the average number of Europeans and Americans was $110\frac{3}{5}$; there were in all 44 deaths for the five years, giving an average of $8\frac{4}{5}$ per annum; the death rate, therefore, for the second period was much the same as for the first, viz., nearly 8 per cent.

Much has been and is being done to improve the sanitary condition of the town: the swamps in its immediate vicinity are being gradually filled up and a better system of scavenging has been introduced. A large number of wells has been sunk by the Government, from which fairly good water is obtained. Rain-water tanks have been provided for all officers' quarters and public institutions, and the planting out of eucalyptus in considerable quantities has been resorted to in the hope that in this way the malarious character of the climate may be to some extent counteracted. But when all is said and done the fact remains that it is almost impossible to conquer by sanitary measures and precautions so bad a climate as is unfortunately to be found in Lagos.

Education.

32. During the five years which have passed since Lagos was erected into a separate Colony education has undoubtedly made great progress. At the commencement of 1886 there were 30 schools; in 1890 the number had risen to 47. Formerly these were entirely under the control and management of the different missionary bodies, but a certain amount of assistance was given by the Government in the shape of a grant of 600*l.* per annum, which was divided equally between the Church of England, Roman Catholic, and Wesleyan denominations. The Government also provided for the part salary of an Inspector of Schools, whose services were shared with the Gambia, Sierra Leone, and the Gold Coast Colonies. This system, however, did not work satisfactorily, and in May 1887 an ordinance was introduced putting matters on a new footing. By this enactment a Board of Education, with the Governor as President, was established and the disposal of the Government grant was placed in the hands of this body. In December of the same year regulations providing a scheme of payment and dealing with all details relating to the management of schools were passed.

The new departure was at first very unpopular with the managers of schools, but time has shown that the evils feared were for the most part imaginary and it is now generally appreciated. As far as the Government is concerned the grants are decidedly increased, but it is admitted on all sides that a more than corresponding progress has followed the additional expenditure on education.

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In 1888, the first year of the new system, there was a slight falling off in the number of the pupils, but this speedily righted itself, and the last school report shows that there are some 15 per cent. more names in the rolls in 1890 than in 1886, and also that the record in this respect for 1890 is about 16 per cent. above the average for the five years.

Although much has been done to afford better educational opportunities and advantages to the people of Lagos, one cannot be blind to the fact that there still remains a very great deal to be effected before the Colony can be said to be equal in this respect to even the smaller West Indian Islands. A better system of supervision is most necessary, and it is to be hoped that the Inspector of Schools may himself be able to give more time to this very important part of his duties. The appointment of a Sub-Inspector of Schools who will reside in the Colony, and whose work it will be to constantly visit the different schools, is arranged for, and no doubt this will have a decidedly beneficial effect.

Two exhibitions of school work have been held under the auspices of the Board of Education, with capital results, the prizes being keenly competed for. A great deal of interest has without question been elicited in this way both from parents and pupils, as was apparent from the large number of persons who were present on both occasions.

The following figures speak for themselves:—

Year.	Number of Pupils on Roll.	Average Attendance.	Proportion (per cent.) of Number presented for Examination.	Grant.
				£ s. d.
1888 - -	2,363	1737·	—	735 0 0
1889 - -	2,645	1799·2	87·8	1,076 12 2
1890 - -	3,085	2155·06	88·4	1,013 10 0

Botanic Station.

33. The Botanic Station was established in November 1887 on the site of the old West Indian Barracks at Ebute Metta under the auspices of the Royal Gardens, Kew. Mr. McNair, from Jamaica, was the first curator, and to him must be given the credit of starting what has proved a great success. In a place such as Lagos the difficulties which attend any enterprise of an agricultural or horticultural nature are very great, and without a personal experience it is almost impossible to imagine the obstacles with which you have to contend. These have, however, been conquered to a great extent, and it is now a very thriving little station. During the three years it has been in existence over 42,000 seed-

lings of different varieties, but principally Liberian coffee, have been distributed from it, and a collection of plants has been supplied to the Cameroons Botanic Station. 219*l.* has been received for the sale of plants and vegetables.

Public Works.

34. During the five years many new public works have been undertaken. The following return gives the more important of them, and also shows which are completed and the amount of money which has been expended on them:—

Name of Work.	Expenditure to 31st December 1890.	Whether completed or not.
	£	
Prison - - - - -	5,876	Incomplete.
Marina Embankment - - -	6,967	„
Police station - - - -	1,335	Completed.
Survey of Lagos - - -	1,184	Incomplete.
Sanitarium - - - -	907	Completed.
Petroleum magazine - - -	264	„
Slaughter-house and fish market -	1,693	„
Completion of Five Cowrie Bridge Road	1,351	„
*New Constabulary quarters, with armoury, gunshed, &c.	1,454	„
Lighthouse - - - -	4,086	Incomplete.
Iron latrines - - - -	634	„
Total - -	25,751	

The Marina Embankment may, I think, be said to be the principal work, not only because the largest sum has been expended on it, but also for the reason that it is undoubtedly of the most use to the community generally. Its construction has improved the appearance of the town very considerably and the benefits derived from it, from a sanitary point of view, cannot be overestimated. 1,370 yards were finished on the 31st of December 1890, and the intention is to continue the wall as far as the Powder Magazine; this will take some time to accomplish, and it is very probable that it will be the latter end of 1893 before completion is reached.

* The land on which these quarters are built was purchased for 1,007*l.* in 1887, but this amount is not included in the above sum, as it was only paid this year and did not come into the expenditure of the five years under report.

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The prison is another very important work which calls for special notice. The plans for this institution have been most carefully examined and revised by competent authority in England with a view to ensuring that the design should meet all requirements from a sanitary as well as from a penal point of view. At the end of 1890 quarters for the keeper of the prison, guard room, offices, &c., &c., and two blocks containing 93 cells enclosed within a wall 14 feet in height, were in use; but there still remains to be built the female prison with accommodation on the separate system for 10 prisoners, hospital, warders, quarters, latrines, and lavatories, cells for European prisoners, workshops and cells for untried prisoners. These, it is calculated, will take some three years to erect; it will therefore be the end of 1894 before the Lagos Prison is completed.

The lighthouse was commenced in 1890, but with this building I have dealt in the main body of the report. It is now finished, the light, which is described as a third class dioptric, being lighted for the first time on the 1st of April of the current year. The total cost was nearly 4,300*l.*

Of the other works mentioned in the return I will only say they have generally met the objects for which they were constructed.

In addition to the foregoing sums the amount set forth in the annual estimates has been expended in repairs, additions to, and alterations of, different public buildings.

The under-mentioned properties have been acquired by the Government since the 31st of December 1885 :—

Description of Property.	Cost.	Use to which put.
	£	
Banners' house, warehouses, and wharf.	8,000	Treasury and Customs.
House in Broad Street - -	850	Queen's Advocate's quarters.
„ „ - -	1,125	Colonial Surgeon's quarters.
House in Wesley Street - -	800	Chief Justice's quarters.
Plot of land with house adjacent to Banners' known as Harry Pratt's.	450	To be included in Treasury and Customs.
Coal shed - - -	293	Frontage to Prison.
Total - -	11,518	

That described as Banners' is situated on the Marina in the busiest part of the town, and is well adapted, both from construction and position, to the purposes to which it is put.

The properties now occupied as quarters by the officers named were undoubtedly bargains, the sum paid for them being in each case less than the actual cost of the houses alone. The premises are comparatively new and in good repair, and should only require the ordinary upkeep expenditure for paint, &c. for some time to come.

From its situation, which is within the original compound of Banners' property, it was imperatively necessary to acquire Harry Pratt's. The buildings on it were, however, almost valueless, and should be pulled down.

Marine

35. In 1887 the steam launches "Constance" and "Gladys" were purchased from the Gold Coast Government for 1,200*l.* The "Constance" was, however, condemned as unserviceable and sold in 1889, but the "Gladys" continues to do good work. In the same year a twin screw launch named the "Kathleen" costing 968*l.* was imported from England for service in the Eastern District, and the stern wheeler yacht "Margaret" was completed at a cost of 11,147*l.* This vessel was built by Messrs. Laird Brothers of Birkenhead, and was sent out in sections and put together in the Colony under the supervision of Mr. Stuart, engineer of Government vessels. Nine European mechanics were locally employed on the work, and her construction occupied 14 months.

The "Margaret" is 120 feet in length and 25 feet in breadth, and only draws 30 inches when loaded.

A small launch, purchased from Messrs. Dickins of Liverpool for 332*l.*, was also sent out in 1890.

From the foregoing remarks it will be gathered that the sums expended on vessels for the use of the Colony during the five years amounted to about 13,648*l.*

Hospitals.

36. The hospitals of the Colony consist of the Colonial Hospital and Contagious Diseases Hospital. In 1888–89 the latter was almost entirely rebuilt, and a boundary wall to the compound eight feet in height was also erected. Though both these institutions are under the house surgeon, who resides in the Colonial Hospital, they are situated about half a mile apart. This would not seem altogether a good plan, but as far as I am informed no difficulties have arisen on this score. It is no easy matter to persuade the native to come into hospital when he is ill, but the following return shows that some progress has been made in this direction:—

Year.	Daily Average of Patients in Hospital duirng the Year.	Total Number of Patients treated during the Year.		Persons treated in the Externe Department.
		Europeans.	Natives.	
1886 - -	$24\frac{225}{365}$	No return.		No return.
1887 - -	$23\frac{285}{365}$	No return.		No return.
1888 - -	$23\frac{74}{365}$	70	506	7,913
1889 - -	$32\frac{225}{365}$	57	585	2,940
1890 - -	$35\frac{288}{365}$	11	686	5,563

With regard to the externe department, a dispensary, where outdoor patients receive treatment, was at the latter end of 1889

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established in the centre of the town. This branch of the Colonial Hospital becomes every day more popular, and the number of persons who avail themselves of it has very largely increased during the current year. In addition to the numbers shown as treated in the externe department in the above return, 273 cases were attended to at the dispensary in 1889 and 3,233 in 1890.

Vaccination has been steadily carried on, but no returns are forthcoming previous to 1888. Since the commencement of that year, however, it is recorded that 21,572 persons have been operated on. In no less than 15,461 cases successful results were obtained, and the number of unsuccessful cases was 2,878; 3,239 persons failed to return to be inspected by the vaccinator.

Imports and Exports.

37. I regret to say the returns of imports from 1886 to 1890 show a marked falling off on the previous five years, the average deficit being 35,679*l.* This, I am given to understand, is due to the fact that the goods on which the *ad valorem* duty of 4 per cent. is paid are much inferior in quality and price to what was formerly imported. Another reason for the decrease is also to be found, to a certain extent, in the introduction of the cash system which previous to 1886 was almost unknown in the Colony. Now all the kernels, and no inconsiderable a proportion of the oil, are bought for cash, and day by day the old custom of bartering merchandise for produce is less resorted to. This new departure has led to the establishment of several stores, whose sole business it is to sell articles of European manufacture for ready money. Already this trade has become large and remunerative, and from it to a great extent the future revenue of Lagos will be obtained. The change in system has undoubtedly been temporarily prejudicial to the interests of the Colony, but this was to be expected, and in the fact that the imports, exports, and revenue for 1891 will be the largest on record we have evidence that a generally improved trade may be hoped for in the future.

Exports from 1881 to 1885 averaged 584,360*l.*, whilst from 1886 to 1890 their value was only 525,504*l.* Here, again, is a great falling off, but this, too, can be satisfactorily accounted for, as for it the low price realised by the staple products (palm oil and kernels) in the European markets is entirely responsible. That this is a correct view of the situation may be gathered from the following figures, which represent the average quantities exported during the periods given :—

	Palm Oil.	Palm Kernel.
	Gallons.	Tons.
1885 - - - -	2,291,281	27,158
1890 - - - -	2,720,045	36,899
Average excess - -	428,764	9,741

One serious danger to the commercial prosperity of Lagos is that it depends to such a very large extent on the products of the

oil palm. When anything affects the industry prejudicially it is at once felt, and a corresponding falling off in the revenue of necessity follows. Endeavours have been made to induce the inhabitants to take up the cultivation of coffee, cocoa, &c., &c., but up to now it cannot be said that much has been effected in this direction. Three plantations of Liberian coffee have, however, been started on the mainland near Ebute Metta and are doing well, but no return can be expected from them for the next three years. This delay is very trying to the native, who has been accustomed to quick-growing crops, and it is, in my opinion, very doubtful whether he will have the patience to continue unremunerative cultivation for so long a period as is required to bring coffee to maturity.

The following are the current prices of palm oil and palm kernels for the years named: —

Year.	Palm Oil, per Ton.	Palm Kernel, per Ton.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1881 - - - -	30 4 2	11 10 3
1882 - - - -	32 19 5	12 5 11
1883 - - - -	39 6 9	14 19 11
1884 - - - -	34 14 1	14 5 6
1885 - - - -	27 17 3	12 7 9
1886 - - - -	21 13 5	10 6 3
1887 - - - -	21 11 9	10 1 10
1888 - - - -	19 19 7	10 1 11
1889 - - - -	22 13 9	10 8 6
1890 - - - -	24 15 0	12 7 5
———	For 1881–85.	For 1886–90.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Average for palm oil - -	33 0 4	22 2 8
Average for palm kernel - -	13 1 10	10 13 2

Political.

38. In 1886 a mission of considerable importance was sent to the interior in the hope that several tribal wars, which were disturbing the country and injuring the trade of Lagos, might be put a stop to. The Commissioners, who were Mr. Henry Higgins, Acting Colonial Secretary, and Mr. Oliver Smith, Queen's Advocate, left the Colony on 17th of August and did not return until the 18th of November. Their efforts were to a considerable extent successful, as in consequence of their remonstrances the camps at Kiji, Oke Mese, Ife, and Modakeke were abandoned. On the other hand, they failed to persuade the Ibadans and Ilorins to retire from their camps at Ikirun and Ofa, and these people, being hostile to each other, still continue to trouble the whole country. Were it not for this, Yoruba land would be at peace, and the inhabitants of it would be able to devote themselves to those agricultural pursuits which nature seem to have intended them for.

Much has been done in the way of extending British influence to the east and west of Lagos, and it may be said that nearly 200

LAGOS.

miles of the main waterway is now frequently passed over by steam craft of the Colony. This has promoted a feeling of security amongst the natives, and has to a great extent put a stop to the outrages and seizures on the lagoon, which were so frequent in former years.

Friendly relationship with the peoples to the back of Lagos has been encouraged and as a proof of how far it has progressed I may mention that the Alafin of Oyo (the King of all Yoruba Land) receives a stipend from the Government. Messengers are sent to the Governor of Lagos from Abeokuta, Iseyin, Iwo, Ibadan, Ode Ondo, Ilesha, Jebu Ode, and other places, and by means of them an intercourse more or less intimate is kept up with the places named. Unfortunately the Egbas and Jebus, who have command of the roads to the interior, are not always ready to allow people to go over them, and they at times refuse to permit persons to pass either to or from Lagos. This is a great obstacle to the development of the country and sooner or later some definite arrangement providing a right of way will have to be arrived at.

Looking to the frequent endeavours in this direction which have been made in past years, it will, undoubtedly, be very difficult to bring the people to reason by negotiation, but, in my opinion, if they are once made to understand that the Government is in earnest the resistance which is now offered to the advance of civilisation will disappear.

To the westward a more settled state of affairs exists and the troubles which in former days so frequently arose with Porto Novo have ceased. This has been brought about by the agreement with France of August 1889, which defines the spheres of British and French influence, and also fixes the boundary line between Lagos and Porto Novo. Any little concession which was obtained by the French under this agreement is more than counterbalanced by the free hand which it has given us within our own limits. In Pokra we also have a substantial equivalent for Ketonu, and it must be recognised by all who know the circumstances of the case that the only better arrangement for Lagos would have been the inclusion of Porto Novo within the Colony.

In conclusion, I venture to submit that Lagos has a future of considerable importance before it. It is free from debt, has a trade of about one and a quarter millions, and collects a revenue of between seventy and seventy-five thousand a year with the lowest customs tariff known. The expenses of administration compare very favourably with those of any other Colony, and it has great undeveloped resources. With these conditions present it will indeed be strange if it does not before long become one of the most valuable of Her Majesty's African possessions.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GEORGE C. DENTON,
Colonial Secretary

His Excellency
The Governor and Commander-in-Chief,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 22.

LEEWARD ISLANDS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1890.

(In continuation of Colonial Report (Annual) No. 1.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
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1892.

[C.—6563.-6.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

No.	Colony.	Year.
87	Newfoundland	1888
88	Mauritius, Seychelles, and Rodrigues	,,
89	Zululand	1889
90	Gibraltar	,,
91	Grenada	,,
92	Bermuda	,,
93	St. Vincent	1888
94	St. Vincent	1889
95	Bahamas	,,
96	St. Lucia	,,
97	British Bechuanaland	1888–9
98	Turks and Caicos	1889
99	Gambia	,,
100	Straits Settlements	,,
101	St. Kitts-Nevis	1886
102	Basutoland (Governor's Visit)	1890
103	British New Guinea	1888–9
104	Natal	1889
105	Malta	,,
106	British Guiana	,,
107	Barbados	,,
108	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
109	Western Australia	,,
110	Gold Coast (Agriculture)	1890
111	Labuan	1889
112	Jamaica	,,
113	Falkland Islands	,,
114	Basutoland	1889–90
115	Sierra Leone	1889
116	Fiji	,,
117	Hong Kong	,,
118	St. Helena	,,

NEW SERIES OF COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

1	British Honduras	1889
2	Mauritius	,,
3	British Bechuanaland	1889–90
4	Victoria	1889
5	Newfoundland	,,
6	British New Guinea	1889–90
7	St. Vincent	1890
8	Bermuda	,,
9	Leeward Islands	1889
10	St. Lucia	1890
11	Bahamas	,,
12	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
13	Gibraltar	,,
14	Zululand	,,
15	Sierra Leone	,,
16	Barbados	,,
17	Falkland Islands	,,
18	Labuan	,,
19	British Honduras	,,
20	Basutoland	1890–91
21	Trinidad and Tobago	1890

No. 22.

LEEWARD ISLANDS.

[In continuation of Colonial Report (Annual) No. 9.]

Sir W. F. HAYNES SMITH to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, Antigua,
August 12, 1891.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the Blue Book of the Colony of the Leeward Islands for the year 1890, together with the report of the Colonial Secretary thereon.

2. The record of the year shows that some substantial progress has been made in the Colony, and that there is the commencement of a movement to turn to advantage some of the exceptional advantages possessed by these Islands.

3. The Leeward Islands, although offering many remunerative investments for capital, are still undeveloped. They must become the market gardens for the United States and Canada, and their proximity to the large markets and their fertile soil would make numerous cultural industries most profitable undertakings. Good land, suitable for cultivation, can be obtained on the most favourable terms, and the conditions of life are pleasant. The Colonial Government are endeavouring to still further improve these conditions, and to make the land easy of access. They are also endeavouring to bring the Islands into regular communication both with the United States and Canada, so as to afford easy and rapid means of access to the unlimited markets of the Northern Continent.

4. A considerable sum has been spent on the various public works and undertakings for these objects. One result of this expenditure is that the labouring population have eaten more food. The returns show that the amount of meat eaten, principally in the form of salted beef and pork, has increased per head.

5. The total amount of revenue raised from all sources, including all local charges as well as general taxation, was 18*s.* 4*d.* per head of the population, and the expenditure was at the rate of 17*s.* 7*d.* per head, exclusive of sums raised on loan, but including all charges for interest and sinking fund.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. F. HAYNES SMITH.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

o 68509. Wt. 19750.

LEEWARD ISLANDS.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Antigua,
July 28, 1891.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Excellency the Blue Book of the Colony for the year 1890, together with my report thereon.

I have, &c.
(Signed) FRED. EVANS,
Colonial Secretary.

His Excellency
Sir W. F. Haynes Smith, K.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

1.—REVENUE.

The revenue for the year is returned at 119,359*l.* It shows a surplus of 5,160*l.* over the year's expenditure, which, exclusive of the extraordinary expenses incurred upon public works, amounted to 114,199*l.*; it was 7,105*l.* more than the revenue of 1889, and 14,917*l.* more than was received in 1888. From reference to the following tables it will be seen that, as in former years, the increase was mainly due to "customs" under which 81,546*l.* was collected in 1890, as against 75,783*l.* in 1889.

In each of the Presidencies there was an increase in the customs receipts, and with the exception of the Virgin Islands, where the small revenue was affected by the introduction of Federal postage stamps, each Presidency collected more revenue than it did in 1889.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of REVENUE COLLECTED in each PRESIDENCY of the COLONY in the Years 1889 and 1890.

Heads of Revenue.	Antigua.		St. Kitts-Nevis.		Dominica.	
	1889.	1890.	1889.	1890.	1889.	1890.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1. Customs - - - -	31,377 5 6	33,137 13 1	26,585 3 7	28,472 15 9	12,213 0 0	13,900 4 5
2. Port, harbour, and lighthouses dues -	1,237 7 7	1,575 5 5	3,404 14 4	3,296 15 5	839 0 4	902 15 4
3. Licenses, excise - - -	3,330 19 1	6,008 19 8	7,044 12 7	8,359 6 9	5,819 4 4	5,641 15 9
4. Fees of court - - -	5,866 10 3	3,459 10 2	1,139 0 6	1,308 18 9	446 14 5	510 18 0
5. Post office - - - -	1,027 15 2	1,729 1 4	905 8 4	1,258 17 2	444 0 8	498 1 4
6. Rents of Government property -	200 0 0	200 4 8	459 6 6	58 14 4	—	52 18 7
7. Interest - - - -	202 6 0	180 0 0	153 13 2	63 6 3	21 14 7	21 5 0
8. Miscellaneous receipts - -	166 7 2	52 7 9	313 4 6	136 15 1	40 13 9	46 8 5
Total - - - -	43,408 10 9	46,334 2 1	40,005 3 6	42,955 9 6	19,824 8 1	21,574 6 10
9. Land sales - - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total - - -	43,408 10 9	46,334 2 1	40,005 3 6	42,955 9 6	19,824 8 1	21,574 6 10
Arrears of 1888 - -		—	28 17 1	—	671 13 2	—
Total revenue - - -	43,408 10 9	46,334 2 1	40,034 0 7	42,955 9 6	20,496 1 3	21,574 6 10

Comparative Statement of Revenue collected in each Presidency of the Colony in the Years 1889 and 1890—*continued.*

Heads of Revenue.	Montserrat.		Virgin Islands.		Total for Colony.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1889.	1890.	1889.	1890.	1889.	1890.	1890.	1890.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1. Customs - - -	4,470 14 1	4,795 11 7	1,136 16 2	1,239 17 8	75,782 19 5	81,546 2 6	5,763 3 1	—
2. Port, harbour, and lighthouses dues - - - -	13 3 9	9 7 3	24 7 6	31 9 4	5,518 13 6	5,815 12 9	296 19 3	—
3, Licenses, excise - -	1,493 18 1	1,352 8 7	295 5 4	263 11 11	20,519 10 7	21,626 2 8	1,106 12 1	—
4. Fees of court - - -	214 3 9	265 4 5	92 6 9	62 17 6	5,223 4 6	5,598 8 10	1,375 4 4	—
5. Post office - - -	210 17 3	273 19 11	225 5 7	152 19 4	2,813 7 0	3,912 19 1	1,098 12 1	—
6. Rents of Government property -	—	—	0 10 0	3 10 10	659 16 6	315 8 5	—	344 8 1
7. Interest - - -	—	—	—	—	377 13 9	264 11 3	—	113 2 6
8. Miscellaneous receipts - -	11 12 1	36 0 1	17 6 3	7 18 6	549 3 9	279 9 10	—	269 13 11
Total - - - -	6,414 9 1	6,732 11 10	1,791 17 7	1,762 5 1	111,444 9 0	119,358 15 4	8,641 10 10	727 4 6
9. Land sales - - -	—	—	96 19 5	—	96 19 5	—	—	96 19 5
Total - - - -	6,414 9 1	6,732 11 10	1,888 17 0	1,762 5 1	111,541 8 5	119,358 15 4	8,641 10 10	824 3 11
Arrears of 1888 - -	11 15 10	—	—	—	712 6 1	—	—	712 6 1
Total revenue - - -	6,426 4 11	6,732 11 10	1,888 17 0	1,762 5 1	112,253 14 6	119,358 15 4	8,641 10 10	1,536 10 0
					Net increase, 1890, 7,105*l.* 0*s.* 10*d.*			

Presidency.	1888.		1889.		1890.	
	Revenue.	Customs.	Revenue.	Customs.	Revenue.	Customs.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Antigua - -	39,522	28,116	43,409	31,377	46,334	33,137
St. Kitts-Nevis -	40,069	27,773	40,034	26,585	42,956	28,472
Dominica - -	17,450	8,594	20,496	12,213	21,574	13,900
Montserrat - -	5,851	3,045	6,426	4,471	6,733	4,795
Virgin Islands -	1,550	715	1,889	1,137	1,762	1,239
Total for the Colony -	104,442	68,243	112,254	75,783	119,359	81,543

2.—EXPENDITURE.

11,962*l.* is returned as having been expended during 1890 upon special and exceptional public works, and, irrespective of this sum, which I leave to be commented on under the head "Public Works," the year's disbursements amount to 114,199*l.*

No less than 22,700*l.* was expended upon medical relief, while the cost of the prisons, police, and of the administration of justice is given as 18,755*l.* The collection of, and accounting for, the revenue cost 7,135*l.*, the ordinary and recurrent expenditure upon public works is shown as 14,071*l.*, and the charges on account of the public debt, came to 8,020*l.*

The following statement shows the expenses of each Presidency during the year:—

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the EXPENDITURE in each PRESIDENCY of the COLONY in the years 1889 and 1890.

Heads of Expenditure.	Antigua.		St. Kitts-Nevis.		Dominica.	
	1889.	1890.	1889.	1890.	1889.	1890.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1. Charges on account public debt -	1,602 3 0	3,008 13 7	698 3 2	1,119 0 0	1,197 4 4	3,646 16 11
2 Pensions - - - -	258 13 4	558 3 11	2,173 10 3	2,329 1 1	763 14 4	714 18 4
3. Legislature - - -	75 0 0	75 0 0	100 0 0	100 0 0	51 7 6	50 17 0
4. Island Secretary (Commissioner) -	162 19 7	163 16 5	776 16 3	792 7 8	754 8 11	793 2 3
5. Federal contribution - -	2,794 11 4	3,215 4 3	3,050 5 9	2,866 12 1	1,614 10 3	1,852 8 8
6. Treasury and customs - -	2,362 16 8	2,405 2 9	2,243 8 3	2,139 16 4	1,929 19 3	2,046 5 6
7. Audit - - - -	170 0 0	164 1 0	—	50 0 0	—	—
8. Port and marine - - -	618 7 3	737 8 11	72 10 7	78 7 7	58 16 9	24 10 8
9. Registrar and Provost Marshal -	957 14 10	853 4 4	721 18 6	721 19 2	570 12 4	618 0 11
Magistrates - - -	1,055 0 0	1,099 7 2	1,834 14 5	1,720 13 9	542 11 6	548 9 11
10. Police - - - -	3,538 3 9	3,533 15 10	2,688 9 10	3,073 11 9	1,811 17 10	1,745 16 7
11. Prisons - - - -	1,849 1 1	1,769 12 2	1,521 12 3	1,433 19 10	653 9 9	775 17 7
12. Medical - - - -	2,235 7 8	2,246 17 8	2,009 8 6	2,071 18 10	926 13 0	1,337 17 7
13. Hospitals - - - -	6,749 18 7	6,713 4 6	4,987 15 10	5,937 17 4	2,564 15 11	2,580 6 0
14. Education - - - -	1,239 6 0	1,245 3 2	1,450 1 4	1,252 10 11	926 3 6	1,019 11 9
15. Ecclesiastical - - -	671 18 8	679 4 9	789 5 0	720 8 9	—	—

Comparative Statement of the Expenditure in each Presidency of the Colony in the years 1889 and 1890—*continued.*

Heads of Expenditure.	Antigua.		St. Kitts-Nevis.		Dominica.	
	1889.	1890.	1889.	1890.	1889.	1890.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
16. Board of Health - - -	2,336 13 2	2,542 15 0	1,713 6 3	729 7 9	566 8 7	543 11 11
17. Registration and vaccination -	276 15 0	294 11 0	545 4 7	402 5 0	151 0 8	114 8 9
18. Public market - - -	195 12 8	201 8 4	63 19 6	62 17 2	15 19 0	23 19 8
19. Public library - - -	180 0 0	180 0 0	37 0 0	259 1 7	—	—
20. Laboratory - - -	629 9 7	470 7 11	—	—	—	—
21. Military - - - -	1,009 0 3	1,082 9 7	55 0 0	50 1 4	—	—
22. Miscellaneous - - -	620 3 9	1,889 13 7	591 9 10	1,101 6 5	927 3 10	945 5 10
23. Post Office - - - -	1,338 4 3	1,662 17 8	1,339 16 7	1,346 8 5	589 17 4	532 13 5
Telegraphs - - -	800 0 0	800 0 0	800 0 0	809 0 1	800 0 0	400 0 0
Telephones - - -	728 14 3	1,336 9 9	376 16 5	71 9 0	—	—
24. Public Works, Department -	1,067 11 5	1,175 15 6	782 13 7	816 2 4	526 5 4	557 6 1
25. „ „ recurrent - -	5,918 9 7	5,580 6 5	3,637 12 3	4,872 10 6	1,971 16 3	2,735 8 3
Total - -	41,441 15 8	45,684 15 3	35,060 18 10	36,928 15 8	19,914 16 2	23,607 10 0
26. Public works' extraordinary -	—	4,457 13 6	4,024 8 10	6,163 5 2	—	610 0 0
Total - -	41,441 15 8	50,142 8 9	39,085 7 8	43,092 0 10	19,914 16 2	24,217 10 0
Arrears of 1889 - - -	13 11 5	—	—	—	—	—
Total - - £	41,455 7 1	50,142 8 9	39,085 7 8	43,092 0 10	19,914 16 2	24,217 10 0

Comparative Statement of the Expenditure in each Presidency of the Colony in the years 1889 and 1890—*continued.*

Heads of Expenditure.	Montserrat.		Virgin Islands.		Total Colony.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1889.	1890.	1889.	1890.	1889.	1890.	1890.	1890.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1. Charges on account public debt	245 0 0	245 0 0	—	—	3,742 10 6	8,019 10 6	4,277 0 0	—
2. Pensions - - -	337 7 1	233 12 4	134 16 2	134 16 2	3,668 1 2	3,970 11 10	302 10 8	—
3. Legislature - - -	—	—	5 0 0	5 0 0	231 7 6	230 17 6	—	0 10 6
4. Island Secretary (Commissioner)	490 0 0	465 0 0	466 14 4	403 10 6	2,650 19 1	2,617 16 10	—	33 2 3
5. Federal contribution - -	538 3 5	617 8 11	174 15 10	198 15 2	8,172 6 7	8,750 10 1	578 3 6	—
6. Treasury and customs -	266 0 1	378 8 3	158 1 8	165 13 7	6,960 5 11	7,135 6 5	175 0 6	—
7. Audit - - - -	—	—	—	—	170 0 0	214 1 0	44 1 0	—
8. Port and marine - -	—	13 15 8	—	—	749 14 7	854 2 10	104 8 3	—
9. Registrar and Provost Marshal	33 14 8	41 6 0	—	—	2,284 0 4	2,234 10 5	—	49 9 11
Magistrates - - -	24 0 0	24 0 0	66 19 7	52 9 0	3,523 5 6	3,444 19 10	—	78 5 8
10. Police - - - -	358 10 10	256 7 6	32 12 6	48 4 11	8,429 14 9	8,757 16 0	328 1 3	—
11. Prisons - - -	180 2 8	196 3 11	102 10 10	141 18 8	4,306 16 7	4,317 12 2	10 15 7	—
12. Medical - - -	426 6 10	410 19 9	204 18 1	215 0 0	5,802 14 1	6,282 13 10	479 19 9	—
13. Hospitals - - -	873 13 4	920 16 11	286 4 7	264 12 0	15,462 8 3	16,416 16 9	954 8 6	—
14. Education - - -	339 9 0	339 9 0	91 4 0	101 16 0	4,046 3 10	3,958 10 10	—	87 13 0
15. Ecclesiastical - - -	458 15 0	458 15 0	12 0 0	12 0 0	1,931 18 8	1,870 8 6	—	61 10 2

Comparative Statement of the Expenditure in each Presidency of the Colony in the years 1889 and 1890.—*continued.*

Heads of Expenditure.	Montserrat.		Virgin Islands.		Total Colony.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1889.	1890.	1889.	1890.	1889.	1890.	1890.	1890.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
16. Board of Health - -	123 10 2	80 18 8	—	—	4,739 18 2	3,896 13 4	—	843 4 10
17. Registration and vaccination -	62 13 8	85 15 8	25 13 9	14 1 0	1,061 7 7	911 1 5	—	150 6 2
18. Public market - - -	34 16 0	34 18 6	—	—	310 7 2	323 3 9	12 16 7	—
19. Public library - - -	25 0 0	50 0 0	—	—	242 0 0	489 1 7	247 1 7	—
20. Laboratory - - -	—	—	—	—	629 9 7	470 7 11	—	159 1 8
21. Military - - -	—	—	—	—	1,064 0 3	1,132 10 11	68 10 8	—
22. Miscellaneous - - -	183 19 0	127 16 6	70 0 11	67 0 0	2,392 17 4	4,131 2 4	1,738 5 0	—
23. Post Office - - -	183 5 2	92 15 2	80 14 1	22 13 11	3,531 17 5	3,657 5 7	125 8 2	—
Telegraphs - - -	—	—	—	—	2,400 0 0	2,009 0 1	—	390 19 11
Telephones - - -	—	—	—	—	1,105 10 8	1,407 18 9	302 8 1	—
24. Public Works Department -	55 0 0	74 2 3	—	—	2,431 10 4	2,623 6 2	191 15 10	—
25. „ „ recurrent - -	522 18 1	849 10 1	38 12 11	33 7 10	12,089 9 1	14,071 3 1	1,981 14 0	—
Total - -	5,762 5 0	6,097 0 1	1,950 19 3	1,880 18 9	104,130 14 11	114,198 19 9	11,922 8 11	1,854 4 1
26. Public works, extraordinary -	382 8 8	630 18 8	—	100 0 0	4,406 17 6	11,961 17 4	7,554 19 10	—
Total - -	6,144 13 8	6,727 18 9	1,950 19 3	1,980 18 9	108,537 12 5	126,160 17 1	19,477 8 9	1,854 4 1
Arrears of 1889 - -	—	—	—	—	13 11 5	—	—	13 11 5
Total - £	6,144 13 8	6,727 18 9	1,950 19 3	1,980 18 9	108,551 3 10	126,160 17 1	19,477 8 9	1,867 15 6

LEEWARD ISLANDS.

3.—PUBLIC DEBT.

Antigua received 600*l.* during the year on account of the Walling's Reservoir Loan, but as two debentures of 100*l.* each of the Savings Bank Loan were bought up, the total amount of the debt was increased by 400*l.* only.

In St. Kitts-Nevis the debt was increased by the transfer of 9,000*l.* from immigration funds to the Nevis Waterworks Loan.

Dominica paid off 2,300*l.* of her debt, but against this she received 17,000*l.* towards the Public Works Loan.

Montserrat paid off 100*l.* of the Waterworks Loan.

The total amount of the loans at the end of the year was 92,071*l.*, and for the gradual extinction of this sinking funds have been provided.

There was invested 18,767*l.* and to meet our immediate liabilities there was cash in hand to the amount of 15,033*l.*

4.—PUBLIC WORKS.

From the statements prepared by the Treasurers of the several Presidencies it would appear that in addition to the cost of the Public Works Departments, which is returned at 1,408*l.*, there was spent a sum of 26,033*l.* throughout the Colony upon public works. Of this amount 11,962*l.* was expended upon the alteration, maintenance, &c., of public buildings, upon repairs to roads, streets, and bridges &c., and may be termed annually recurrent expenditure; 14,071*l.* was spent upon the execution of works of an exceptional nature and upon securing land for the purposes of these works.

At Antigua the exceptional expenditure includes the purchase of between 600 and 700 acres of land of which the major portion has already been brought into use in connexion with the recently-established Botanical Station and Industrial School. 1,300*l.* was contributed towards the cost of a new steam launch received in 1891.

690*l.* was expended upon deepening and cleaning out some of the watercourses of the island, thus improving the sanitary condition of their neighbourhood, and some 1,200*l.* went towards the alterations and erection of the Skerretts Industrial and Reformatory School buildings which have during the present year been opened for the reception of youths.

At St. Kitts-Nevis the expenditure includes the cost of the erection of a Leper Asylum and of a new hospital (Pogson Hospital) at Sandy Point, the draining of the "Pond" Swamp, the paving of several large open drains to carry off the water during heavy rains and the extension of the telephone system over the Island of St. Kitts.

At Montserrat, with an expenditure of 630*l.*, the largest disbursement was on account of the improvement in the streets of

Plymouth, but here, as at Dominica, where the "exceptional" expenditure is returned at 610*l.* only, many very important works were carried out from loans specially raised for such works.

No less than 36 bridges and large culverts were either erected or in process of erection at Dominica, roads were under construction in many parts of the island, and every effort was made to open up the interior of this most lovely and fertile island.

With regard to the "recurrent" expenditure of the 5,580*l.* put down for Antigua, three-fifths or 3,700*l.* went for repairs to the public roads, of which there are about 200 miles, 1,000*l.* for repairs, &c. to public buildings, and 1,000*l.* in a work which might more properly have come in the exceptional expenditure, namely, the construction of a new country reservoir (Willikie's).

At St. Kitts-Nevis, where the expenditure was 4,873*l.*, the public roads and bridges cost 2,637*l.*, alterations and repairs to public buildings about 1,265*l.*

At Dominica the expenditure was 2,735*l.*, the largest item being for roads, piers, and wharves (1,080*l.*).

Montserrat, out of the 849*l.* expended, spent 320*l.* upon a new bridge (Belham), and 350*l.* upon roads.

The expenditure in the Virgin Islands only amounted to 33*l.*, and was disbursed for repairs to public buildings.

5.—LEGISLATION.

There was good work done during the year. The General Legislative Council (Federal Council) sat at Antigua from the 1st to 11th February, and passed 19 Acts, of which three were reserved for the signification of Her Majesty's pleasure.

One of those reserved was an Act to amend the Constitution of the General Legislative Council, established by an Imperial Act of 1871 and amended by Colonial Acts of 1878 and 1882. The New Act increases the number of members from 20 to 24, and provides that the elective members, of whom there are 12, be elected direct to the Council by the constituencies, instead of being selected from the Local Councils by the elective members of such Councils. The qualifications for voters and members are lowered, and while power is given to the Council to legislate upon all subjects other than the levying of taxes, it is provided that no Bill granting money or altering the constitution of any of the legislatures shall be deemed to have passed the Council, if two-thirds of the elective members vote against it, unless the Governor declares the same to be of paramount importance to the public interest.

The Act to regulate the procedure at elections of members of Council, is the necessary outcome of the Constitution Bill.

It is practically the English Ballot Act of 1872 with certain modifications made to meet local requirements. This was also reserved.

An Act to enforce elementary education, which was the remaining one reserved, has been confirmed and brought into operation

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Under its provisions the Governor occupies the position of a Board of Education, and the Colonial Secretary that of secretary to such Board. Power is given to establish educational districts supervised by educational district officers, and to constitute Colonial schools where necessary. Every child between the ages of five and twelve years is compelled to attend school, the employment of any child under the age of nine years is absolutely prohibited, and the employment of a child of the age of nine years and upwards, who has not obtained a certificate of proficiency, is prohibited unless such child attends school daily for 2½ hours.

A scale of fees is fixed, but power is given to exempt parents from the payment of fees when, by reason of poverty, they are unable to pay them.

Of the remaining 16 Acts the most important were those which made provision for a regular steam service between the islands of the Colony, made uniform the stamps used throughout the Colony for postage rates and stamp duties, and prohibited the erection of telephones without license.

In the Local Legislatures, which passed between them 36 Acts or Ordinances, the following were of most importance, viz., that which provided for the conservation of a supply of fresh water and its distribution throughout the island of Antigua, that which provided for the establishment of a leper asylum at St. Kitts, and that which provided for the repair and preservation of the public roads in Montserrat.

6.—CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT.

There were not many changes of importance in the offices and appointments of the Colony. Mr. C. G. Walpole was appointed Attorney-General *vice* Mr. C. R. Tyser, resigned; two medical officers, Drs. Campbell and Cleveland, joined the staff. Mr. R. B. Roden was appointed a District Magistrate, Mr. W. H. Porter was sent from the Treasury at St. Kitts to be Treasurer at Dominica, and a Curator was appointed to each of the three botanical stations.

Mr. J. L. Lake who was transferred from the Magistracy of Anguilla to that of Dominica, died suddenly in the latter island on the 16th June. The keeper of the prison at Antigua, Mr. J. H. Peters, after 37 years' good service was pensioned. His place has been filled by a trained and qualified prison officer from England. Several other changes of minor importance were effected.

7.—EDUCATION.

The figures in the Blue Book disclose gratifying returns. During the past year the numbers on the registers have risen from 12,573 to 13,677, an increase of 1,104, while during the same period there has been an increase of 581, and this improvement has taken place in spite of the inclemency of the weather in the early part of the year.

Many changes of importance have been effected in 1891 in this department.

First and foremost was the passing of the Compulsory Education Act (No. 14 of 1890), which was carried through the Federal Council without a dissenting voice. The chief provisions of this Act are those with regard to the appointment of educational district officers, the enforcement of penalties against parents and employers for the non-attendance of children under the age of 12, the establishment of Colonial schools in districts where there is insufficient accommodation, the power given to the Governor in Council to proclaim compulsory districts, so as to bring the Act gradually into force, and the authority given to appoint Boards with powers to be defined by the Governor in Council. No prosecutions, except by order of the Colonial Secretary, are to be entered under this Act before the 1st July 1891.

The Federal Council also passed an Act, No. 15 of 1890, to take the place of the different Acts which were to expire at the end of 1890. Under this Act the Governor in Council is empowered to pass rules and regulations to regulate the salaries of teachers, the standard of examination, and other matters connected with the Primary Schools. Rules have been passed ameliorating the system which came into existence in 1874. In order to secure a better class of teachers, the salaries, which were not large enough to attract men qualified for the position, were considerably augmented by the addition of certificate grants. In November there was, for the first time, an examination of teachers competent for certificates and, in future, schools under the charge of teachers not in possession of certificates will not be entitled to Government aid. It is to be hoped that the increased emoluments will tend to make the teachers show better work and raise their schools to a higher state of efficiency.

A pupil-teachers' system on a good basis was also established in order to give assistance in the larger schools and to prepare a better class of students than those at present examined at the entrance examinations of the training colleges.

The subject of improving the educational status and of making provision for the training of female teachers has been recognised in the provision for, and assistance to, the Moravian Female Training College in St. John's, Antigua, where Government students in return for a grant will now be received irrespective of denomination.

The Mico Training College for male teachers still continues to receive a subsidy of 200*l.* under the Federal Act No. 20 of 1878.

Nothing has more retarded the progress of education in the Colony than the want of skilled teachers in sufficient numbers, and this has in a great measure been due to the excessive multiplication of schools under the denominational system, which has caused the Government grant to be subdivided to such an extent that the salaries were too small to secure the services of trained

A scheme for the building of central schools in places where one school would meet the requirements of the district has been prepared and is engaging the earnest attention of the Government.

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During 1890 secondary education has made considerable advances in the Colony. A Government grammar school and a high school, aided by Government, have been started in St. Kitts and Montserrat respectively, and 300*l.* have been placed on the estimates in Dominica for the establishment of a grammar school.

It is the contention of the Government that these schools should afford special facilities to boys intending to enter life as planters or merchants. In Antigua the existing high schools have made great progress during the year as is proved by the fact that, whereas in 1889 only 15 candidates entered for the Cambridge local examination, 30 were presented in 1890.

Arrangements were also made for establishing in Antigua a centre for the examinations of the London University, which will be of advantage to these islands by enabling many who, from want of means, are unable to proceed to the Mother Country to pass those examinations, to do so in the Colony.

Following the example of the syndicates established under the authority of the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge a society was formed by those interested in education for the promotion and encouragement of home reading and self-improvement. As many as 56 presented themselves for examination in the different subjects at the Antigua centre.

Throughout the Colony there are distinct and encouraging signs that the advantages of education are being more and more appreciated by all classes, and that there are hopes of great progress in this direction in the near future.

8.—IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The gross value of the imports was 451,760*l.* as against 428,979*l.* in 1889. The gross value of the exports was 513,557*l.*

Antigua contributed more largely than any of the other Presidencies towards the total increase in the imports. The returns of this Presidency show an increase of 18,804*l.* as against 3,751*l.*, 151*l.*, and 821*l.* shown by the returns of St. Kitts-Nevis, Dominica, and the Virgin Islands respectively.

With regard to the exports, notwithstanding the exceptionally dry season, the out-put of our chief staples was a very little less than in 1889. There was only a falling off of 4,357 tons of sugar, and of 4,084 puncheons of molasses.

In the miscellaneous articles of export, the produce of the Colony, such as salt (from Anguilla), bay leaves (from Dominica), logwood (from Antigua and Dominica), essential oils (from Dominica and Montserrat), hides and skins, &c., there was an increase of 5,764*l.*

The United Kingdom has increased the value of her exports to this Colony by 33,304*l.* since 1887 when it was 185,770*l.* In 1890 the value was 219,074*l.*, as against 201,159*l.* in 1889, and as against 184,150*l.* in 1888.

British North America increased her exports to this Colony from 16,651*l.* in 1887 to 17,890*l.* in 1889, and to 19,823*l.* in 1890. In 1887 they fell temporarily to 15,931*l.*

The United States of America have made no progress since 1888 so far as their exports to the Leeward Islands are concerned. In 1887 they gave us 141,489*l.*, in 1888 147,531*l.*, in 1889 143,153*l.*, and in 1890 147,212*l.*

The United States received nearly three-fourths of our total exports or 387,223*l.* They took sugar to the value of 372,822*l.*, molasses (from Antigua and St. Kitts only) to the value of 5,288*l.*, and fruits and fruit juices to the value of 5,826*l.*, of which Dominica gave 5,156*l.*

To the United Kingdom our exports were valued at 41,698*l.*, these consisting chiefly of sugar from Antigua and St. Kitts (19,079*l.*); fruits and fruit juices (limes principally) 12,421*l.* from Dominica and Montserrat, and coffee and cocoa (6,069*l.*) from Dominica.

British North America received nearly all our molasses. It was shipped from Antigua and St. Kitts only, to the value of 29,926*l.* These two Presidencies also shipped to her 4,130*l.* worth of sugar.

To Martinique we shipped, for the manufacture of rum, 10,469*l.* worth of molasses.

The statements given below are intended to show (*a*) the value of our trade with the countries enumerated, (*b*) how such trade is made up, and (*c*) each Presidency's imports and exports.

Countries.	Imports from				Exports to			
	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.
					£	£	£	£
United Kingdom - - -	185,770	184,150	201,159	219,074	26,367	59,970	54,445	41,698
British North America - -	16,651	15,931	17,890	19,832	26,455	36,965	51,331	35,576
Barbados - - - -	23,922	26,757	28,390	27,633	983	2,494	2,600	2,567
Other British Colonies - - -	7,132*	5,849	3,811	3,963	11,911*	595	1,351	2,578
United States of America - -	141,489	147,531	143,151	147,212	319,772	377,693	545,388	387,223
Other Foreign countries - -	27,626*	13,301	21,812	20,180	67,109*	18,545	19,810	29,812
	402,590	393,519	416,215	437,885	452,597	496,262	674,925	499,454
Internal Trade - - -	—	11,691	12,764	13,875	—	13,547	14,858	14,103
Total - -	402,590	405,210	428,979	451,760	452,597	509,809	689,783	513,557

* Includes internal trade.

VALUES OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES OF IMPORT FROM THE FOLLOWING COUNTRIES.

United Kingdom.

Articles.	1889.	1890.	Increase.	Decrease.
			1890.	1890.
	£	£	£	£
Alcoholic liquors	9,264	8,406	—	858
Boots and shoes	7,803	8,982	1,179	—
Coal, &c.	2,508	1,490	—	1,090
Cottons and woollens	58,138	60,842	2,704	—
Earthen and glassware	2,520	2,767	247	—
Fancy goods, toys, &c.	2,403	2,662	259	—
Rice	7,104	7,538	434	—
Government stores	5,892	7,722	1,830	—
Haberdashery, &c.	22,886	27,544	4,658	—
Hardware	14,775	16,729	1,954	—
Leather and saddlery	3,740	3,394	—	346
Sugar machinery	10,628	16,814	6,186	—
Manures	15,424	15,823	399	—
Groceries	4,096	4,783	687	—
Soap	3,648	3,281	—	367
Other articles	30,258	30,297	39	—
	201,159	219,074	20,576	2,661
		Increase, 17,915*l.*		

British North America.

Articles.	1889.	1890.	Increase.	Decrease.
			1890.	1890.
	£	£	£	£
Fish, dried and pickled	12,648	12,160	—	488
White pine and spruce	3,966	4,202	236	—
Other articles	1,276	3,461	2,185	—
	17,890	19,823	2,421	488
		Increase, 1,933*l.*		

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Barbados.

Articles.	1889.	1890.	Increase. 1890.	Decrease. 1890.
	£	£	£	£
Cottons and woollens - -	2,270	1,454	—	816
Manures - - - -	1,860	1,580	—	280
Fish, dried and pickled - -	9,414	9,968	554	—
Flour - - - -	1,770	2,573	803	—
Shooks - - - -	1,522	1,361	—	61
Other articles - - -	9,164	10,697	1,533	—
	26,000	27,633	2,890	1,257
		Increase of 1,633*l.*		

United States of America.

Articles.	1889.	1890.	Increase. 1890.	Decrease. 1890.
	£	£	£	£
Corn - - - -	6,339	7,973	1,634	—
Bread biscuits - - -	3,599	4,476	877	—
Flour - - -	42,299	50,456	8,157	—
Meal - - - -	8,177	10,089	1,912	—
Butter - - - -	4,089	3,542	—	547
Cheese - - - -	1,675	1,789	114	—
Lard - - - -	2,230	1,650	—	580
Pork - - - -	15,365	11,679	—	3,686
Petroleum oil - - -	3,525	3,233	—	292
Tobacco - - - -	4,823	3,523		1,300
White pine and spruce - -	2,767	6,926	4,159	—
Shocks - - - -	14,210	2,555	—	11,655
Pitch pine - - - -	1,539	3,418	1,879	—
Cypress and Wallaba shingles -	1,173	1,302	129	—
Fish dried and pickled - -	1,690	1,951	261	—
Beef (salted) - - -	2,848	3,448	600	—
Other articles - - -	26,805	29,202	2,397	—
	143,153	147,212	22,119	18,060
		Increase, 4,059*l.*		

VALUES OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES OF EXPORTS TO THE FOLLOWING COUNTRIES:—

United Kingdom.

Articles.	1889.	1890.	Increase. 1890.	Decrease. 1890.
	£	£	£	£
Fruits and fruit juices - -	8,935	12,421	3,486	—
Coffee and cocoa - - -	10,260	6,069	—	4,191
Sugar - - - -	28,097	19,079	—	9,018
Other articles - - -	7,153	4,129	—	3,024
	54,445	41,698	3,486	16,233
		Decrease, 12,747*l.*		

British North America.

Articles.	1889.	1890.	Increase. 1890.	Decrease. 1890.
	£	£	£	£
Sugar - - -	9,436	4,130	—	5,306
Molasses - - -	41,195	29,926	—	11,269
Other articles - - -	700	1,520	820	—
	51,331	35,576	820	16,575
		Decrease, 15,755*l.*		

United States of America.

Articles.	1889.	1890.	Increase. 1890.	Decrease. 1890.
	£	£	£	£
Fruits and fruit juices - -	8,643	, 826	—	2,817
Sugar - - - -	517,240	372,822	—	144,418
Molasses - - - -	17,294	5,288	—	12,006
Other articles - - -	2,211	3,287	1,076	—
	545,388	387,223	1,076	159,241
		Decrease, 158,165*l.*		

VALUE of the PRINCIPAL ARTICLES of IMPORT into each PRESIDENCY.

Articles.	Antigua.		St. Kitts-Nevis.		Dominica.		Montserrat.		Virgin Islands.		Total for the Colony.		1890 Increase.	1890 Decrease.
	1889.	1890.	1889.	1890.	1889.	1890.	1889.	1890.	1889.	1890.	1889.	1890.		
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Alcoholic liquors - -	5,256	4,597	9,147	7,144	2,934	2,018	450	694	96	113	17,973	14,566	—	3,407
Boots and shoes - -	3,584	4,058	2,875	3,206	1,513	1,571	406	432	59	115	8,437	9,382	945	—
Cottons, woollens, and linens manufactured - -	19,367	21,059	25,826	27,079	11,976	11,914	4,779	3,986	346	355	61,794	64,393	2,599	—
Grain - - - -	8,812	9,832	6,817	7,567	776	1,024	195	265	103	97	16,703	18,785	2,082	—
Haberdashery and millinery	9,705	11,903	9,792	11,798	2,535	3,221	1,390	1,316	20	24	23,442	28,262	4,820	—
Hardware - - -	6,258	7,672	6,582	7,225	1,801	2,028	1,456	1,174	74	53	16,171	18,152	1,981	—
Machinery - - -	5,150	9,086	4,592	6,549	497	1,090	467	508	—	9	10,706	17,323	6,617	
Manures - - -	7,507	7,303	7,317	9,110	2,711	2,449	180	65	—	—	17,715	18,927	1,212	—
Oil meal - - -	1,770	2,637	4,011	4,776	131	132	156	179	—	—	6,068	7,724	1,656	—
Provisions:—														
Breadstuffs, &c. - -	23,732	28,482	25,965	30,699	6,153	6,661	2,563	3,936	1,375	1,796	59,788	71,574	11,786	—
Salted or dried - -	23,776	21,544	23,403	20,225	7,101	8,568	4,289	3,578	250	261	58,819	54,176	—	4,643
Groceries, &c. - -	4,382	4,899	4,069	4,622	2,003	1,616	322	570	47	314	9,823	12,021	2,198	—
Tallow and oils - -	3,702	4,001	4,041	3,522	3,134	3,069	868	702	151	135	11,896	11,429	—	467
Tobacco - - -	1,911	1,631	2,172	1,422	1,353	592	277	314	52	43	5,765	4,002	—	1,763
Wood Shooks, &c. - -	10,892	11,255	16,985	9,759	1,749	2,731	2,167	1,579	317	297	32,110	25,621	—	6,489
Other articles - -	21,823	26,360	23,805	35,502	10,287	7,295	2,685	2,090	405	301	59,005	61,548	2,543	—
	157,627	176,319	176,899	180,205	55,694	55,979	22,740	21,388	3,295	3,994	416,215	437,885	38,439	16,769
Internal Trade -	8,160	8,272	896	1,341	1,575	1,403	2,104	2,708	29	151	12,764	13,875	1,111	—
Total - - -	165,787	184,591	177,795	181,546	57,269	57,382	24,844	24,096	3,324	4,145	428,979	451,760	39,550	16,769

Net Increase, 22,781*l.*

Principal Entries of Exports from each Presidency.

Articles.	Antigua.		St. Kitts-Nevis.		Dominica.		Montserrat.		Virgin Islands.		Total.	
	1889.	1890.	1889.	1890.	1889.	1890.	1889.	1890.	1889.	1890.	1889.	1890.
Fruits and fruit juices - - £	2,040	—	549	180	8,331	9,175	8,745	7,063	85	—	19 750	16,418
Coffee and cocoa - - lbs.	—	—	—	—	702,291	410,330	—	61	—	—	702,611	410,391
Sugar - - - Tons	17,050	16,120	19,967	17,110	2,530	2,312	1,754	1,411	10	1	41,311	36,954
Molasses - - - Puns.	8,842	7,541	7,128	4,598	559	410	495	391	—	—	17,024	12,940
Rum - - -Proof Gallons	60	—	47,548	34,650	784	1,226	120	—	—	—	48,518	35,876
Other articles produced in the Colony - } £	655	3,017	2,504	3,714	5,001	5,485	1,345	1,915	3,835	4,973	13,340	19,104
Foreign produce re-exported - £	807	1,523	6,632	7,672	391	1,099	29	72	—	2	7,869	10,368
Internal trade - - - £	5,806	4,416	5,506	7,147	1,538	1,662	1,801	808	207	63	14,858	14,103

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9.—SHIPPING.

In 1890, 672 steam and 3,855 sailing vessels entered at the Ports of the Colony. The total tonnage of the steam vessels was 715,650, and that of the sailing vessels 71,014.

Of the steam vessels 642 were British, 14 German, 15 American, and one was Norwegian. Of the sailing vessels 3,137 were British, 500 Dutch from the neighbouring islands of Saba, St. Eustatia, and St. Martins, 115 French, and 61 American.

In 1889, the steam vessels, which which were all British, numbered 544, and the sailing vessels 3,542. I give a statement showing the number of vessels which entered and cleared in each Presidency, and their total tonnage. As pointed out in a previous report, the mail steamer calling at each Presidency will be shown five tiems, and will thus swell the tonnage returns for the Colony.

	1873.		1878.		1883.		1888.				1889.				1890.			
							Steam.		Sailing.		Steam.		Sailing.		Steam.		Sailing.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
ANTIGUA.																		
British - - -	833	14,322	571	41,741	963	338,305	294	314,348	620	32,897	308	331,970	582	27,563	374	396,934	645	49,233
Foreign - - -	56	9,598	172	18,426	128	23,915	—	—	106	19,244	—	—	127	26,431	20	23,680	137	19,558
ST. KITTS-NEVIS.																		
British - - -	1,236	64,285	983	64,740	1,284	346,127	340	358,746	929	33,734	314	331,206	1,045	37,225	392	412,238	1,194	28,692
Foreign - - -	999	20,549	1,539	39,485	951	29,934	—	—	754	18,462	—	—	816	19,717	26	25,406	1,040	21,725
DOMINICA.																		
British - - -	546	16,670	537	19,225	801	307,687	242	263,248	309	8,902	252	283,918	492	11,044	294	314,756	602	12,723
Foreign - - -	282	2,031	376	6,750	349	9,268	—	—	45	2,321	—	—	76	1,004	10	11,396	142	3,942
MONTSERRAT.																		
British - -	286	12,456	406	14,024	519	53,605	204	296,073	506	15,695	214	292,182	455	15,235	220	237,754	513	15,272
Foreign - - -	8	757	51	3,139		2,430	—	—	65	1,576	—	—	69	1,206	2	2,840	48	894
VIRGIN ISLANDS.																		
British - - -	2,445	8,586	2,906	8,318	1,715	5,500	—	—	3,121	8,718	—	—	3,484	8,358	—	—	3,329	8,179
Foreign - - -	8	320	6	67	10	254	—	—	28	404	—	—	13	148	—	—	68	723
Total - British -	5,346	143,319	5,503	148,048	—	1,051,224	1,080	1,232,415	5,485	99,946	1,088	1,239,276	6,058	99,425	1,280	1,361,682	6,283	114,099
Total - Foreign -	1,353	33,255	2,144	67,867	—	65,801	—	—	998	42,007	—	—	1,101	48,506	58	63,322	1,435	46,842
Total - -	6,699	176,574	7,647	215,915	6,720	1,117,025	1,080	1,232,415	6,483	141.953	1,088	1,239,276	7,159	147,931	1,338	1,425,004	7,718	160,941

There was no regular steam communication with the Colony until late in 1878.

LEEWARD ISLANDS.

10.—Criminal Statistics.

As compared with the statistics of 1889, those for the year under review show a decrease in the number of offences reported to the police, and an increase in the number of persons convicted.

In 1889 there were 22,139 offences reported, as against 21,084 in 1890, while the convictions in 1890 were 8,997 as against 8,959 in 1889.

Offences against the person diminished throughout the Colony generally, but prædial larceny and offences against property increased largely in Antigua, St. Kitts-Nevis, and Dominica.

There were convictions in about three-sevenths of the 19,804 cases brought before the courts.

Taking the population of the Colony at 130,000—and so far as I can at present estimate from the census returns this is a fair estimate—the convictions numbered almost 8 per cent. of the population.

Antigua, including Barbuda and Redonda with an estimated population of 37,000, gives nearly 8 per cent. St. Kitts-Nevis; including Anguilla with 47,000, gives $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Dominica with 29,000, gives 9 per cent. Montserrat with 12,000, gives $2\frac{3}{4}$ per cent., and the Virgin Islands with 5,000 give $1\frac{1}{5}$ per cent.

Comparative Table showing the Number of Offences, Charges, Convictions, Acquittals, &c., in each Presidency for the Year 1890.

—	Antigua.	St. Kitts-Nevis.	Dominica.	Montserrat.	Virgin Islands.	Totals.	
1. Offences reported to the police or magistrate during 1890 - -	5,927	7,181	7,206	637	133	21,084	
2. Persons brought before the magistrate on warrant or otherwise and disposed of -	5,860	6,323	6,785	711	125	19,804	
(1.) Summarily -	5,808	6,206	6,758	700	102	19,574	
(2.) Committed to trial - -	52	52	27	11	23	165	
	5,860	5,258	6,785	711	125	19,739	
3. Summary convictions: (1.) Offences against person - -	785	549	151	65	7	1,557	
(2.) Prædial larceny -	110	168	63	31	5	377	
(3.) Offences against property, other than prædial larceny - -	213	526	180	79	13	1,011	
(4.) Other offences -	1,808	1,768	2,215	143	42	5,976	
	2,916	3,011	2,609	318	67	—	8,921

—	Antigua.	St. Kitt's-Nevis.	Dominica.	Montserrat.	Virgin Islands.	Totals.		
4. Convictions in the superior courts:								
(1.) Offences against the person -	18	12	3	4	—	37		
(2.) Prædial larceny	—	10	—	—	—	10		
(3.) Offences against property other than prædial larceny -	9	9	1	5	—	24		
(4.) Other offences -	—	—	3	1	1	5		
	27	31	7	10	1	—	76	8,997
5. Acquitted:								
(1.) Inferior courts -	1,243	1,125	1,099	213	4	3,684		
(2.) Superior courts -	10	12	15	1	2	40		
	1,253	1,137	1,114	214	6	—		3,724
6. Cases not prosecuted:								
(1.) Inferior courts -	1,649	2,070	3,050	169	31	6,969		
(2.) Superior courts -	3	4	5	2	1	15		
	1,652	2,074	3,055	171	32	—		6,984
7. Cases pending:								
(1.) In inferior court	—	65	421	2	1	489		
(2.) In superior court	39	—	—	—	19	58		
	39	65	421	2	20	—		547
								20,252

11.—GAOLS.

In 1890 there were received into the six common gaols of the Colony 1,358 men, 713 women, and 36 juveniles, in all 2,107 prisoners. Of this number 163 were received for safe custody, and 1,944 for penal imprisonment. Only two were committed for five years or more, 39 for one year or more but less than five years, and 38 for more than 3 months but less than one year, while 1,392, or nearly one-fifth, were committed for three months or less. Of the 79 sentenced to more than three months, 59 were received into the Antigua gaol, 25 having been committed to that prison direct, and 34 having been transferred there under the authority of the Governor.

The number of previous convictions has very sensibly diminished as will be noticed by reference to the following table. The diminution I attribute to the gradual but very marked improvement which has taken place in the administration of our gaols.

Year.	Number sentenced to penal imprisonment.	Number previously convicted.			Total.
		Once.	Twice.	Thrice or more.	
1888 -	1,760	404	299	549	1,252
1889 -	1,699	241	213	426	880
1890 -	1,944	253	160	351	764

There were no escapes. There were three deaths, two at Antigua, one at Dominica.

The number of punishments shown in the returns has increased from 226 in 1888 and 208 in 1889 to 685 in 1890, but this is mainly the result of the recent introduction of more accurate statistical records, although some increase is doubtless due to the determination of the authorities to enforce and improve the gaol discipline.

The year's expenditure upon the prisons is returned at 4,004*l.*

12.—HOSPITALS AND ASYLUMS.

There are in Antigua one hospital, two lunatic asylums, a leper asylum, and a poor house. In St. Kitts there are two hospitals, one of which serves as a poor house, and lately there has been opened an asylum for the segregation of pauper lepers. In Nevis there is one hospital into which paupers are admitted. Dominica has one hospital for all diseases except Yaws, a hospital specially set apart for the treatment of "Yaws," and a poor house. Montserrat and the Virgin Islands have each a hospital admitting paupers.

Of the 2,909 persons who received hospital treatment, one half (1,473) were discharged as cured, 655 were sent out relieved, and 49 as not improved. There were 376 deaths, or nearly 12½ per cent. of the cases treated. This may appear large, but it should not be forgotten that the native dislike to any form of restraint, keeps a large number of the sick from seeking hospital treatment until they are more or less in a moribund condition.

The lunatic asylums at Antigua serve for the Colony, the island sending patients to them bearing the cost of their maintenance. The buildings belong to, and the staff are paid by, Antigua. That at Rat Island, in the harbour of St. John's, receives patients on their first admission for treatment. That at the Ridge, near English Harbour, receives those who are convalescent or harmless and quiet. The former at the end of 1889 contained 69 inmates, and during 1890 admitted 40. Six were sent to the Ridge, 15 were discharged, and 22 died, leaving 66 at the commencement of this year. The Ridge contained 66 inmates at the end of 1889

received six from Rat Island during 1890, discharged 10, and was left with 31 at the end of 1890, one death having taken place.

In the leper asylum at Antigua, there were 28 inmates at the end of 1889. 10 were admitted during 1890, and eight died, leaving 30 at the beginning of 1891.

There is no law in Antigua affecting lepers, who are only induced to go to, or remain in, the asylum by the bestowal upon them of more attention and better treatment than they can obtain elsewhere, In St. Kitts a law for the segregation of pauper lepers has recently been passed, and an asylum recently erected at Sandy Point now contains 81 inmates.

The poor house at Antigua contained 60 inmates at the end of 1889, 24 males, 36 females, to these were added in 1890, 32 males and 51 females. 41 males and 42 females were discharged, leaving 60 inmates on the 1st January 1891, 15 males and 45 females, 12 being children under 13 years of age. There were three deaths. Outdoor relief was extended to 60 males and 188 females, 385*l.* having been disbursed.

In St. Kitts-Nevis a sum of 916*l.* was spent upon outdoor pauper relief, while 121 paupers were admitted to the hospitals.

The Dominica Poor House added 160 paupers to the 108 who were inmates on the 31st December 1889, 64 died and 121 were discharged, leaving 83 to begin 1891 with. 10 persons shared outdoor relief amounting to 36*l.*

Exclusive of the salaries of the medical staff, the total cost of the hospitals and asylums is returned at 14,029*l.* of which 2,388*l.* was for the nursing and supervising staff.

Hospitals.

Presidency.		Remaining at beginning of 1890.	Admitted in 1890.	Discharged			Died.	Remaining at end of 1890.
				Cured.	Relieved.	Not improved.		
Antigua	Male	52	428	238	140	—	94	8
	Female	56	493	164	216	—	93	76
St. KITTS-NEVIS.								
Cunningham	Male	56	503*	333	104	2	60	60
	Female	39	444*	288	84	—	56	55
Sandy Point	Male	7	70	47	12	1	10	7
	Female	9	64	47	12	—	4	10
Nevis	Male	23	51†	23	18	1	6	26
	Female	20	21†	16	15	1	9	—
DOMINICA.								
Roseau	Male	16	175	122	32	23	17	—
	Female	10	84	59	10	12	9	4
Yaws	Male	38	29	47	—	—	3	17
	Female	24	28	34	—	—	3	15
Montserrat	Male	28	37	23	4	3	4	31
	Female	35	40	25	5	3	5	37
Virgin Islands	Male	7	12	7	2	2	2	6
	Female	7	3	—	1	1	1	7
Total		427	2,482	1,473	655	49	376	359

* Including 114 paupers.

† Including 7 paupers.

Lunatic Asylum at Rat Island.

	Antigua.		St. Kitts-Nevis.		Dominica.		Montserrat.		Virgin Islands.		Total.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Remaining end of 1889 -	11	20	7	8	8	3	2	5	3	2	31	38
Admitted in 1890 - -	15	8	3	2	3	3	3	3	—	—	24	16
Total - -	26	28	10	10	11	6	5	8	3	2	55	54
Sent to the Ridge - -	3	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	4	2
	23	27	9	10	11	5	5	8	3	2	51	52
Discharged - - -	3	7	2	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	7	8
	20	20	7	10	10	5	4	7	3	2	44	44
Died - - - -	4	5	2	2	2	2	1	3	—	1	9	13
Remaining end of 1890 -	16	15	5	8	8	3	3	4	3	1	35	31

Lunatic Asylum at the Ridge.

	Antigua.		St. Kitts-Nevis.		Dominica.		Montserrat.		Virgin Islands.		Total	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Remaining end of 1889 -	10	11	4	3	4	—	1	2	1	—	20	16
Admitted in 1890 - -	3	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	4	2
Total - - -	13	12	5	3	4	1	1	2	1	—	24	18
Discharged - -	7	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	8	2
	6	11	5	3	4	1	1	1	—	—	16	16
Died - - - -	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Remaining end of 1890 -	6	11	5	3	3	1	1	1	—	—	15	16

15.—METEOROLOGICAL.

A record of the temperature, wet bulb readings, barometrical pressures, and rainfall was commenced to be made at the Government laboratory Antigua on the 1st April 1890.

The instruments are 40 feet above sea-level.

In Antigua the hottest month was September, with an average maximum temperature in the shade of 88° F.

The highest barometer reading (not corrected for temperature) was 30·25 inches on June 1st and 4th, the lowest was 29·95 on August 27th.

The highest temperature (shade) was 91° F. on June 26th, the lowest temperature was on April 15th and 16th, 62° F.

The average rainfall, at 45 stations in the island, was 33·00 inches and was very much below the usual average. In 1889 the average over 50 stations was 73·59 but this was unusually large. In 1888 the average over 47 stations was 44·23. In the City of St. John the total rainfall was 44·22 inches. On the 26th and 27th August there were indications of an approaching hurricane, the barometer falling to 29·95, the storm however, passed about 200 miles to the east of the island. It appears to have had its origin about 450 miles east of Dominica, and to have crossed St. John's Newfoundland on the 1st September.

There were several slight shocks of earthquakes during the year, but no damage was done.

I append a diagram and a table showing the meteorological summary for the year.

Particulars for the other Presidencies of the Colony cannot be given but as instruments have recently been shipped it is hoped that I may be able to give more general information for the Colony next year.

Date.	Thermometer.		Dew Point.		Thermometer.		Barometer.		Rain-fall.
	Dry 9 a.m.	3 p.m.	9 a.m.	3 p.m.	Max.	Min.	9 a.m.	3 p.m.	
1890.									
January - -	77	77	—	—	—	—	30·06	30·08	5·21
February - -	74	71	—	—	—	—	30·15	30·13	1·00
March - -	83	80	—	—	—	—	30·11	30·11	2·51
April - -	79	80	67	64	84	68	30·16	30·13	9·72
May - -	83	81	69	69	85	71	30·17	30·15	3·06
June - -	82	84	69¾	70	87	73	30 20	30·18	1·30
July - -	83	82¾	70	71	87	73	30·18	30·17	3·79
August - -	82	84	72	72	87	74	30·09	30·11	5·53
September -	82	84	72	72½	88	72	30·13	30·09	5·26
October - -	83	83½	73½	71	87½	72	30·12	30·07	3·32
November - -	82	82½	70	70½	86	73	30·10	30·05	1·56
December - -	80	82	68¾	68	85½	70	30·15	30·10	1·96
							Total 44·22.		

Savings Banks.

The total amount of the savings banks deposits was increased by 902*l.* In Antigua there was an increase in the deposits and in the number of the depositors. In St. Kitt's and in Montserrat the deposits were diminished by the withdrawal of some of the larger deposit accounts.

Dominica and Nevis Banks both show encouraging signs of progress.

LEEWARD ISLANDS.

It is not easy to understand why, the conditions being the same, St. Kitts-Nevis with a population in excess of that of Antigua by some 10,000 has only about one-fourth of the savings returned in Antigua.

The attached statements give the details for each of the banks.

Presidency.	No. of Deposits.			Amount of Deposits.			Amount invested.		
	1888.	1889.	1890.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1888.	1890.	1890.
				£	£	£	£	£	£
Antigua - -	1,050	1,163	1,466	35,349	38,995	40,274	27,533	30,297	39,684
St. Kitts - -	235	260	266	6,083	6,800	6,677	5,995	6,595	6,594
Nevis - -	65	70	77	2,719	3,120	3,228	2,650	3,063	3,163
Dominica -	130	155	183	3,376	4,077	4,408	3,150	3,950	4,250
Montserrat -	78	92	81	2,547	2,702	2,009	2,208	2,481	1,678
Virgin Islands -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total -	1,558	1,740	2,073	50,074	55,694	56,596	41,536	46,386	55,369

Number of Depositors in Sums of

Presidency.	Under 1*l.*			1*l.* to 10*l.*			10*l.* to 20*l.*		
	1888.	1889.	1890.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1888.	1889.	1890.
Antigua - -	294	329	514	419	465	546	123	111	129
St. Kitts - -	41	38	42	80	107	99	38	36	36
Nevis - -	6	4	2	20	21	29	11	10	7
Dominica -	11	23	33	53	64	73	24	19	21
Montserrat -	16	18	19	28	39	28	9	9	9
Virgin Islands -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total -	368	412	610	600	696	775	205	185	202

Presidency.	20*l.* to 50*l.*			50*l.* to 100*l.*			Over 100*l.*		
	1888.	1889.	1890.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1888.	1889.	1890.
Antigua - -	85	104	113	52	56	58	83	98	106
St. Kitts - -	30	38	48	17	11	20	23	30	21
Nevis - -	10	12	16	4	9	8	14	14	15
Dominica -	20	26	26	12	9	18	10	14	12
Montserrat -	7	10	11	6	3	7	12	13	
Virgin Islands -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	152	190	214	91	88	111	142	169	161

15.—General Remarks.

Notwithstanding the continued commercial depression consequent upon the manufacture of beet sugar and the low market price of cane sugar, there are many indications that the Colony is steadily advancing. Calls at our ports are now made by a new line of steamers running between the West Indies and British North America, communication between New York and the Colony by means of fast steamers with the latest improvements and highest class passenger accommodation is being arranged, and it is hoped to secure direct steam communication with Canada at an early date. Between the Islands of the Colony, a steamer specially fitted for passengers is now constantly running.

The erection of hotels in Antigua, St. Kitts, and Dominica with the restoration of the old hotel at Nevis, where there is a hot spring with a reputation for the cure of nervous and rheumatic affections will, with the increased steam facilities, not only lead to these beautiful and healthy Islands rivalling the Bahamas in the estimation of our neighbours the Americans and others, but to the material advancement of the Colony by bringing about the introduction of capital, increased cultivation, the opening up of the fruit trade, and the creation of new industries.

The botanic stations show signs of utility; many plants of economic value have been distributed and a fibre industry started.

An agricultural and commercial society which was started during 1890 cannot fail to be of benefit to the Colony if it will keep touch with the Superintendent of Agriculture, and work in harmony with the gentleman performing the important duties of this recently-created office. Mr. Morris, the Assistant Director of the Royal Gardens at Kew, paid the Colony an official visit, and his interesting and instructive lectures gave an impetus to agricultural enterprise.

Dominica has an excellent and unlimited supply of water, but that of Antigua, St. Kitts, and Nevis has long required the attention it is now receiving. In Antigua a reservoir, adding 2,800,000 gallons to the water supply of the City, was recently completed, a reservoir increasing the country water supply was constructed at Willikies, and the long talked of reservoir at Wallings to hold 13,000,000 gallons has been commenced.

In St. Kitts the villagers between Cayou and Dieppe Bay will very soon have their wants supplied, and at Nevis an ample supply for the island has already been provided.

The harbour at St. John's, Antigua, is about to be commenced. Preliminary surveys have been held and the results justify the opinion that with the expenditure of a moderate sum we could possess the finest harbour in the West Indies for deep draught vessels.

The revenue has been maintained and there has been no increase of taxation.

LEEWARD ISLANDS.

In the Virgin Islands the assistance of a body of Danish troops was obtained from St. Thomas by the Commissioner who anticipated a disturbance arising out of a breach of the revenue laws and armed police were despatched from Antigua. The Governor proceeded to the islands in one of Her Majesty's ships of war (H.M.S. Tourmaline) and the matter was settled by the arrest and subsequent punishment of the disturbers of the peace.

The progress made with the Census returns of the year (1891) has enabled me to prepare the annexed statement which may be of interest as showing the condition of the people.

—	Population (Approximate).	Revenue.		*Expenditure.		†Total Value of Imports.		Total Value of Exports.		Customs Duties Paid.		Value of Following Imports.						Savings.	
		—	Per Head.	—	Per Head.	—	Per Head.	—	Per Head.	—	Per Head.	Alcohol.	Per Head.	Food Supplies.	Per Head.	Articles of Wearing Apparel.	Per Head.	Deposits in Savings Bank.	Per Head.
Antigua -	37,000	£ 46,334	£ s. d. 1 5 4½	£ 45,685	£ s. d. 1 4 8¾	£ 184,591	£ s. d. 4 19 8	£ 218,223	£ s. d. 5 18 0	£ 33,138	£ s. d. 0 17 10	£ 4,597	£ s. d. 0 2 6	£ 54,925	£ s. d. 2 9 8½	£ 37,020	£ s. d. 1 0 0	£ 40,274	£ s. d. 1 1 9½
St. Kitts-Nevis	47,000	42,955	0 18 3¼	36,929	0 15 8½	181,546	3 17 3	225,233	4 15 10	28,472	0 12 1½	7,144	0 3 0	55,546	1 3 7	42,083	0 17 11	9,905	0 4 2½
Dominica -	29.000	21,574	0 14 10½	23,607	0 16 3½	57,382	1 19 7	42,296	1 9 2	13,900	0 9 7	2,018	0 1 4¾	16,845	0 11 7½	16,706	0 11 6¼	4,408	0 3 0½
Montserrat -	12,000	6,733	0 11 2½	6,097	0 10 2	23,096	1 18 6	22,755	1 18 0	4,796	0 8 0	694	0 1 2	8,084	0 13 5½	5,734	0 9 6½	2,009	0 3 4
Virgin Islands	5,000	1,762	0 7 2½	1,881	0 7 6¼	4,145	0 16 7	5,050	1 0 2	1,240	0 4 11½	113	0 0 5¼	2,371	0 9 6	494	0 1 11½	—	—
Colony -	130,000	119,358	0 18 4	114,199	0 17 7	450,760	3 9 4	513,557	3 19 0	81,546	0 12 6	14,566	0 2 3	137,771	1 1 2	102,037	0 15 8½	56,596	0 8 8½

* Exclusive of public works of an exceptional nature.

† Including trade between the islands of the Colony.

FRED. EVANS,
Colonial Secretary of the Leeward Islands.

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No. 48.

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(For Report for 1889, *see* Colonial Report No. 105, Old Series.)

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1892.

[C.—6829.–3.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
12	Turks and Caicos Islands	1890
13	Gibraltar	,,
14	Zululand	,,
15	Sierra Leone	,,
16	Barbados	,,
17	Falkland Islands	,,
18	Labuan	,,
19	British Honduras	,,
20	Basutoland	1890–91
21	Trinidad and Tobago	1890
22	Leeward Islands	,,
23	Grenada	,,
24	Straits Settlements	,,
25	British Guiana	,,
26	St. Helena	,,
27	Mauritius	,,
28	Gambia	,,
29	Hong Kong	,,
30	Ceylon	1889
31	Lagos	,,
32	Lagos	1890
33	Ceylon	,,
34	Newfoundland	,,
35	Jamaica	1889–91
36	Victoria	1890
37	British New Guinea	1890–91
38	St. Vincent	1891
39	Bermuda	,,
40	Seychelles and Rodrigues	1889 and 1890
41	Gambia	1891
42	Barbados	,,
43	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
44	Bahamas	,,
45	Fiji	,,
46	Seychelles	,,
47	British Bechuanaland	1891–92

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.

No. 48.

MALTA.

REPORT for 1890.

[For Report for 1889, *see* Colonial Report, No. 105, Old Series.]

Sir H. A. SMYTH to LORD KNUTSFORD.

MY LORD, Palace, Valletta, July 16, 1891.

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Malta Blue Book for the year 1890, together with the Report thereon by the Chief Secretary to Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. A. SMYTH,
Governor.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

Chief Secretary's Office, Valletta,
July 8, 1891.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit the following report on the Malta Blue Book for the year 1890 :—

Revenue.

—	Customs.	Other Receipts.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1887 - - -	145,786 14 0	73,398 6 5	219,185 0 5
1888 - - -	156,600 0 5	83,545 13 1½	240,145 13 6½
1889 - - -	161,871 5 0	89,304 9 6	251,175 14 6
	464,257 19 5	246,248 9 0½	710,506 8 5½
Average of the three years - -	154,752 13 1⅔	82,082 16 3⅙	236,835 9 5⅚
Revenue in 1890 -	160,162 5 8	101,091 19 10¼	261,254 5 6¼
Increase in 1890 -	5,409 12 6⅓	19,009 3 6 1/12	24,418 16 0 5/12

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The following table compares the actual revenue for 1890 with that of 1889 :—

——	Customs.	Other Receipts.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1889 - - -	161,871 5 0	89,304 9 6	251,175 14 6
1890 - - -	160,162 5 8	101,091 19 10¼	261,254 5 6¼
Increase -	——	11,787 10 4¼	10,078 11 0¼
Decrease -	1,708 19 4	——	——

The following table compares the revenue in 1890 with the revenue as estimated :—

Heads of Revenue.	Estimate.	Actual Revenue.	Excess.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Customs - - - -	150,178 0 0	160,162 5 8	9,984 5 8	—
Quarantine dues - - -	—	704 13 7	704 13 7	—
Land revenue - - - -	15,020 0 0	14,819 2 8½	—	200 17 3½
Rents, exclusive of land - -	23,350 0 0	24,567 1 2¾	1,217 1 2¾	—
Licenses - - - - - -	4,000 0 0	4,153 14 11	153 14 11	—
Postage - - - - - -	9,042 0 0	10,452 1 2	1,410 1 2	—
Fines, fees of courts and forfeitures	5,662 0 0	6,927 4 2½	1,265 4 2½	—
Fees of office - - - -	2,513 0 0	4,421 18 11	1,908 18 11	—
Reimbursements in aid of expenses -	3,424 0 0	4,454 17 2¾	1,030 17 2¾	—
Miscellaneous receipts - - -	2,218 0 0	2,845 3 0¼	627 3 0¼	—
Interest - - - -	20,765 0 0	19,479 0 9½	—	1,285 19 2½
Water dues - - - -	3,000 0 0	4,232 9 9¾	1,232 9 9¾	—
Special receipts - - - -	3,800 0 0	4,034 12 3¼	234 12 3¼	—
Total - - -	242,972 0 0	261,254 5 6¼	19,769 2 0¼	1,486 16 6
	—	—	1,486 16 6	—
Actual increase - -	—	—	18,282 5 6¼	—

The following table compares the revenue received in 1890 with that received in 1889:—

Heads of Revenue.	Amount collected in 1889.	Amount collected in 1890.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Customs	161,871 5 0	160,162 5 8	—	1,708 19 4
Quarantine dues	440 19 3	704 13 7	263 14 4	—
Land revenue	15,079 15 7½	14,819 2 8½	—	260 12 11
Rent, exclusive of land	23,656 8 9¾	24,567 1 2¾	910 12 5	—
Licenses	5,075 14 6	4,153 14 11	—	921 19 7
Postage	9,850 14 4	10,450 1 2	601 6 10	—
Fines, forfeitures, and fees of court	5,918 7 10¾	6,927 4 2½	1,008 16 3¾	—
Fees of office	3,403 15 3	4,421 18 11	1,018 3 8	—
Reimbursements in aid of expenses	4,397 1 1¾	4,454 17 2¾	57 16 1	—
Miscellaneous receipts	2,118 17 4¾	2,845 3 0¼	726 5 7½	—
Interest	11,388 12 1	19,479 0 9½	8,090 8 8½	—
Water dues	4,036 4 5½	4,232 9 9¼	196 5 4¼	—
Special receipts	3,937 8 9	4,034 12 3¼	96 13 6¼	—
Total	251,175 14 6	261,254 5 6¼	12,970 2 10¼	2,891 11 1
	—	—	2,891 11 10	—
Actual increase	—	—	10,078 11 0¼	—

Expenditure.

	Salaries and Allowances.	Other Expenditure.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1887	88,625 4 1	145,200 3 10½	233,825 7 11½
1888	90,477 1 8	121,836 0 3½	212,313 1 11½
1889	93,909 15 3	135,793 14 7	229,703 9 10
	273,012 1 0	402,829 18 9	675,841 19 9
Average	91,004 0 4	134,276 12 11	225,280 13 3
1890	97,476 7 11	169,424 2 2½	266,900 10 1½
Increase	6,472 7 7	35,147 9 3½	41,619 16 10½

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The following table compares the actual expenditure in 1890 with the estimate of expenditure :—

——	Estimate.	Actual Expenditure.	Excess.	Saving.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Establishments - - - -	103,677 3 1½	97,476 7 11	—	6,200 15 2½
Exclusive of establishments - -	187,339 5 7	169,424 2 2½	—	17,915 3 4½
Total - - -	291,016 8 8½	266,900 10 1½	—	24,115 18 7

The following is a comparison of the expenditure for 1890 with the expenditure for 1889 :—

Head of Expenditure.	Expenditure in 1889.	Expenditure in 1890.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Establishments.				
Civil - - - -	12,047 4 7	11,534 9 3	—	512 15 4
Revenue - - - - -	8,657 17 7	8,920 18 5	261 0 10	—
Legislative - - - -	200 0 0	200 0 0	—	—
Judicial - - - - -	9,786 8 8	9,917 17 2	131 8 6	—
Police - - - - -	21,262 16 9	24,437 18 11	3,175 2 2	—
Prisons - - - - -	1,391 14 10	1,398 18 8	7 3 10	—
Ecclesiastical - - - -	676 15 0	676 15 0	—	—
Educational - - - -	15,790 13 7	15,973 11 6	182 17 11	—
Charitable - - - -	10,269 8 10	10,372 11 9	103 2 11	—
Clerical establishment - - -	11,262 7 8	11,435 9 11	173 2 3	—
Messengers' do. - - -	2,412 7 9	2,457 17 4	45 9 7	—
Crown Agents - - - -	150 0 0	150 0 0	—	—
Total - - -	93,909 15 3	97,476 7 11	4,079 8 0	512 15 4
Exclusive of Establishments.				
Civil - - - - - -	580 17 2	669 3 2	88 6 0	—
Revenue - - - - -	7,142 15 5	7,638 18 6	496 3 1	—
Legislative - - - -	903 11 1	334 14 7	—	568 16 6
Judicial - - - - -	2,667 10 11	2,744 9 2	76 18 3	—
Police - - - - -	1,586 12 1	2,813 17 11	1,227 5 10	—
Prisons - - - - -	1,686 3 7	1,747 9 4	61 5 9	—
Ecclesiastical - - - -	645 10 0	594 7 2	—	51 2 10
Educational - - - -	1,805 6 0	1,622 16 8	—	182 9 4
Charitable - - - -	23,980 10 6	25,245 4 9	1,264 14 3	—
Pensions - - - - -	13,725 6 9½	13,556 10 5½	—	168 16 4
Works, buildings, roads, streets, &c. - - - - -	59,145 9 8½	76,120 13 5	16,975 3 8½	—
Rent - - - - -	1,264 13 10	1,420 4 7	155 10 9	—
Interest - - - - -	3,064 17 7	13,700 10 2	10,635 12 7	—

Head of Expenditure.	Expenditure in 1889.	Expenditure in 1890.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Burthen on property - - -	1,735 8 6	1,751 6 0	15 17 6	—
Drawbacks, &c. - - - -	3,440 14 2	3,827 3 2	386 9 0	—
Stationery - - - -	972 1 0	1,041 4 10	69 3 10	—
Transport - - - -	2,120 19 1	2,297 16 0	176 16 11	—
Military contributions - - -	5,000 0 0	5,000 0 0	—	—
Miscellaneous services - -	4,325 7 2	7,297 12 4	2,972 5 2	—
Total - - -	135,793 14 7	169,424 2 2½	34,601 12 7½	971 5 0
Grand Total - -	229,703 9 10	266,900 10 1½	38,681 0 7½	1,484 0 4

Legislation.

The following Ordinances were passed by the Council of Government, and promulgated during the year 1890:—

No. I.

To provide for the better protection of the owners of coal stored, or afloat in the harbours.

No. II.

To amend the Police Laws.

No. III.

To permit under certain conditions the manufacture of spirits in these islands.

Civil Establishment.

The following were the most important changes in offices during the year 1890:—

His Excellency Sir Henry Augustus Smyth, K.C.M.G., assumed the administration of the Government of Malta, in the place of the late Sir H. D'O. Torrens, K.C.B

Mr. Francesco Vella, the Collector of Customs, has been appointed to act as Superintendent of the Ports, vice Captain La Primandaye, pending a proposal for the amalgamation of those two offices.

Mr. Giovanni Missud, LL.D., late Assistant Superintendent of Police, has been transferred to one of the situations of Syndics, rendered vacant by the demise of Dr. P. Curmi.

Captain C. La Primandaye, R.N., and Dr. S. Magri have been appointed respectively Superintendent and senior Assistant Superintendent of Police.

Mr. G. Caruana Scicluna, M.D., has been promoted to the situation of Sanitary Inspector, in the place of Dr. P. P. Agius, deceased; and Mr. T. S. Zammit, M.D., has been appointed Analytical Chemist, instead of Dr. Caruana Scicluna.

Mr. Francesco Debono, M.D., has been appointed Professor of Natural History and Forensic Medicine, vice the late Dr. Gavino Gulia.

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Population.

The population of these islands on the 31st December was reported to be as follows :—

	Males.	Females.	Total.	Remarks.
Malta - - -	72,533	73,478	146,011	Not including the Queen's troops and their families.
Gozo - - -	9,553	10,098	19,651	
Total - -	82,086	83,576	165,662	

Savings Bank.

The amount of deposits in the savings bank was as follows :—

	1890.	Depositors.	1889.	Depositors.
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	
In Malta - -	422,759 8 0½	5,116	392,685 9 2¾	4,776
In Gozo - -	38,406 15 3	578	35,193 8 5	541
Total -	461,166 3 3½	5,694	427,878 17 7¾	5,317
Interest accrued due during 1890 credited to capital -	6,181 8 8	—	—	—
Grand Total -	467,347 11 11½	—	—	—

Savings Bank.—Profit and Loss Account.

DR.	£ s. d.	CR.	£ s. d.
Establishment expenses :—		By Depositors' account :—	
To Salaries for 1890 - -	324 0 9	„ Recovered interest - -	68 0 3
„ Sundry office expenses -	161 17 1½	„ Books account - - -	9 15 3
„ Rent account - -	108 0 0	„ Dividends from Consols -	10,240 8 6
„ Interest paid and due for 1890 - - - -	6,459 6 4	„ Interest from Monte -	1,624 10 0
	7,053 4 2½		
Balance Profit - - -	4,889 9 9½		
	11,942 14 0		11,942 14 0

Balance Sheet of the Savings Bank on 31st December 1890.

Dr.	£	s.	d.	Cr.	£	s.	d.
To Treasury banking account -	12,203	0	9	By Depositors' account - -	467,347	11	11½
„ Monte di Pietà - -	54,150	0	0	„ Malta Branch (Gozo) account	427	4	1
„ Cash account - - -	427	4	1	„ Profit and loss - -	4,889	9	9½
„ Investments account - -	402,456	16	11				
„ Gozo Branch (Malta) account current - - -	427	4	1				
	472,664	5	10		472,664	5	10

Balance Sheet of the Monte di Pietà on 31st December 1890.

Dr.	£	s.	d.	Cr.	£	s.	d.
To Landed property - -	61,628	12	2	By Stock account - -	41,628	12	2
„ Cash - - - -	157	1	10¾	„ Loans - - - -	7,569	2	9
„ Pawning transactions -	39,584	14	7¾	„ Savings bank - -	54,150	0	0
„ Treasury banking account -	4,749	13	7¾	„ Surplus on sales of pawns -	1,972	16	5
„ Gozo Branch (Malta) account current - - -	76	16	4	„ Malta Branch (Gozo) account	76	16	4
				„ Profit and loss - -	799	11	0¼
	106,196	18	8¼		106,196	18	8¼

Education.

The following is a list of the Government educational establishments:—

	No. of Scholars.	
	1890.	1889.
The University - - -	76	94
The Lyceum - - - -	450	445
Two Secondary Schools - -	167	156
Seventy-six Primary Schools -	10,244	9,058
Ten Infant Schools - - -	982	939
Total - - -	11,919	10,692

The expenditure of the educational establishments amounted to 18,163*l.* 4*s.* 9½*d.*, and the fees paid by the scholars for attendance in the University and Lyceum to 326*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.*

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Imports and Exports.

	£		£	
The following is the value of cargoes imported and actually landed at this port -	778,573	in 1890, against	845,177	in 1889.
Value of cargoes which merely touched at this port and were re-exported in the same vessels - -	22,900,748	against	23,441,935	„
	23,679,321		24,287,112	

viz.:—

From the U. Kingdom -	134,148	against	144,275	in 1889.
From the British Colonies	763,230	„	1,190,287	„
From H.M.'s ships in port	900	„	511	„
From foreign countries -	22,781,043	„	22,952,039	„
	23,679,321		24,287,112	„

showing a decrease of 607,791*l.*

	£		£	
The value of exports from portions of cargoes which were actually landed at this port - -	37,482	in 1890, against	56,316	in 1889.
Value of exports of whole cargoes which merely touched at this port and proceeded in the same vessels -	22,106,585	against	23,570,766	„
	22,144,067		23,627,082	

viz.:—

To the United Kingdom	3,981,885	against	4,750,352	in 1889.
„ British Colonies -	8,707,077	„	9,054,414	„
„ H.M.'s ships -	3,483	„	2,847	„
„ foreign countries -	9,451,622	„	9,819,469	„
	22,144,067		23,627,082	

showing a decrease of 1,483,015*l.*

Shipping.

The shipping movements in the port during the last three years are as follows:—

Year.	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1887 - -	2,858	3,310,039	1,046	93,987
1888 - - -	4,336	5,143,248	1,557	131,738
1889 - - -	4,298	5,099,734	1,322	108,720
	11,492	13,553,021	3,925	334,445
Average -	3,831	4,517,674	1,308	111,482
1890 - -	3,863	4,495,864	1,130	78,604
Increase -	32	—	—	—
Decrease -	—	21,810	178	32,878

The following table compares the actual arrivals in 1890 with those in 1889:—

Year.	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1889 - - - -	4,298	5,099,734	1,322	108,720
1890 - - - -	3,863	4,495,864	1,130	78,604
Decrease - -	435	603,870	192	30,116

Criminal Statistics.

The following is a statement of offences punishable under local laws, showing the number of accusations and of persons brought before the courts by the police in 1890:—

Offences.	No. of Cases.	No. of Persons.	Acquitted.	Condemned.
Crimes against public tranquillity - -	83	117	9	108
„ affecting public credit - -	8	10	6	4
„ „ the good order of families	45	55	6	49
„ against the person - - -	896	1,153	117	1,036
„ „ property - - -	296	395	69	326
Contempt of Court - - - -	4	4	—	4
CONTRAVENTIONS.				
Affecting public order - - -	2,119	3,700	257	3,343
Against the person - - - -	12	16	2	14
„ property - - - -	79	136	26	110

Offences.	No. of Cases.	No. of Persons.	Acquitted.	Condemned.
OTHER CONTRAVENTIONS.				
Under special Ordinances - - -	1,122	1,598	46	1,777
POLICE LAWS.				
Contraventions - - - -	3,710	6,282	194	5,963
Totals - -	8,374	13,466	732	12,734

viz. :—

Maltese - - - - -	13,318
Other British Subjects - -	109
Foreigners - - -	39
	13,466

The number of persons committed to prison in 1890 was as follows :—

Men - - - - -	4,663
Women - - - - -	599
Boys - - - -	1,215
Girls - - - - -	32
	6,509

GENERAL REMARKS.

Revenue.

The public revenue of the Colony for the year 1890 amounted to 261,254*l.* 5*s.* 6¼*d.*, showing a nett increase of 10,078*l.* 11*s.* 0¼*d.* as compared with the previous year's revenue, and of 18,282*l.* 5*s.* 6¼*d.*, as compared with the estimated revenue.

With the exception of the revenue derived from Customs, Land Revenue, and Licences, there has been a general increase in the revenue from all other sources.

The decrease under "Customs" is chiefly due to the smaller consumption of grain, wines, and spirits; that under "Land Revenue" is attributable to the reduction in the rent of several agricultural holdings, owing to a general depreciation of rural property; and the decrease under "Licences" is due to the reduction of the amounts of the fees of licenses for the retail sale of wines and spirits.

Expenditure.

The expenditure actually incurred in 1890 was 266,900*l.* 10*s.* 1½*d.* as compared with an estimate of 291,016*l.* 8*s.* 8½*d.*, showing a saving on the estimate for 1890 of 24,115*l.* 18*s.* 7*d.* and an excess of 37,197*l.* 0*s.* 3½*d.* over the expenditure of 1889.

The principal items of excess over last year's expenditure are "Establishments," "Police," "Charitable," "Works, &c.," "Interest," and "Miscellaneous Services." As regards the first two heads, the increase is chiefly due to the re-organization of the staff and the increases of pay in the Police Department, and to further requirements for articles of bedding and furniture for the police stations. As regards the third, the increase is due to higher outlay for provisions, drugs, and surgical instruments for the charitable institutions. As regards Public Works, the increase is mainly due to a larger number of new works carried out in 1890. The increase on the head of interest for the following heads:—Interest payable to the savings bank, which is in part refunded as the profits of the undertaking; interest payable to the depositors of the Dollar Investment Fund, and interest paid to the Administrators of the Pappaffy Fund, recouped by dividends; the excess under miscellaneous is chiefly due to the expenses for improving the sanitation of towns and villages, and to expenses for carrying on the service of the slaughter-houses, from which fees, resulting in a profit, are received.

Legislation.

The following three Ordinances were promulgated during the year 1890:—

No. I.—To provide for the better protection of the owners of coal stored or afloat in the harbours.

No. II.—To amend the Police Law.

No. III.—To permit, under certain conditions, the manufacture of spirits in these islands.

Ordinance No. I. originated in the complaints made by the Malta Chamber of Commerce and the agents of steamships, that pilfering coals in the harbours was carried on systematically by a certain class of people who had for years been making of this unlawful practice a regular occupation. The only reliable way of repressing the evil complained of appeared to be the absolute prohibition of the raising of coals or other articles without permission from the bottom of the harbour.

Ordinance II.—This ordinance amends, in several parts, the Police Laws to the following effect.

It empowers the head of the Government to order that dogs be either properly muzzled or led by a person who can prevent the dog from biting.

It authorises the head of the Government to make regulations with respect to omnibuses and steam launches, to enforce due precaution on the part of householders for avoiding stoppages in house drains, and for making them liable for the expense of removing the causes of such stoppages. This was rendered necessary in consequence of the repeated complaints made by the drainage commissioners and by the sanitary inspector as to the expense of removing stoppages in drains caused by the carelessness and neglect of the occupants of houses, and it was apprehended that this expense would increase unless steps were taken to make the householders liable.

Another important amendment of the Police Laws was enacted, in the sense of giving power to the head of the Government for making regulations in connexion with the emptying of cesspits and to establish the pneumatic system. This checks the objectionable practice of emptying cesspits by buckets and open receptacles through inhabited places, to the general inconvenience and the detriment of the health of the neighbourhood.

The last amendment in this Ordinance has been the re-adjustment of the tariff of fares to be fixed for passage boats.

This tariff was incomplete, omitting to specify many routes frequently traversed, and in many cases the fares fixed were considered to be too low, especially for night service,

Ordinance III.—The object of this Ordinance has been that of granting concessions for distilling or otherwise making spirits under the following restrictions, viz. :—

That the applicant be required to state the capital which he intends to lay out, and the name of the responsible manager, and to exhibit plans of the proposed factory and specifications of the machinery which will be used, the sites for such establishments to be chosen by the Government.

But with a view of ensuring the revenue hitherto accruing from the import duty on spirits, an equal excise duty on the manufacture of spirits is established, and facilities are given for the manufacture of spirits for exportation, exempting them and the materials from which they may be made from any import duty, and granting a drawback of the import duty which may have been paid thereon.

Councils.

In the Executive Council there were no changes amongst the permanent members during the year. Two new unofficial members, Archpriest P. Xuereb and Mr. L. Pace Balzan, were appointed in the place of Baron A. Chapelle, LL.D., and Mr. G. Muscat Azzopardi.

In the Council of Government, Marquis Barbaro of St. George was elected to represent the holders of titles of nobility, &c., in lieu of Baron C. Azopardi, deceased.

Civil Establishments.

During my absence from the island, on leave, the Asssistant Secretary to Government, Mr. Eimlio de Petri performed the duties of the Chief Secretary's Office, from June 26th to October 11th.

Sir S. Naudi, K.C.M.G., performed the duties of Chief Justice during the absence, on leave, of his Honour Sir A. Dingli, G.C.M.G., C.B., LL.D., from June 27th to September 30th.

Sir Joseph Carbone, K.C.M.G., LL.D., who had left the island in November 1889 as Secretary to the Special Mission of Sir L. Simmons at Rome, resumed the duties of his office on the 6th of February 1890; during his absence E. G. Caruana, Esquire, LL.D., acted as Crown Advocate.

Professor G. O. Galea, M.D., acted as chief Government medical officer during the temporary absence from the island of Professor S. L. Pisani, M.D.

Securities of Public Officers.

The bonds given by the public officers who are bound to give security for the due discharge of their duties, as required by Regulations, have been duly examined, and with the exception of very few instances, the names of the several securities on behalf of these public officers have been bound to continue to possess the desired qualifications.

Foreign Consuls.

Mr. Adrien C. L. Cochelet, whose exequatur was signed on the 9th October 1890, succeeded Mr. Paul E. A. Schmid as Consul for France.

No other permanent changes have taken place during the year in the consular body.

Population.

The return under this head prepared by the Police Department shows that there were 6,233 births registered during the year, and 4,421 deaths. The marriages numbered 1,118. The population was, previous to the Census of 1891, estimated to be 165,662, according to which estimate the birth rate would be 38·1 per 1,000, the mortality 26·6, and the marriage rate 6·7.

Savings Bank.

There was deposited in the Government savings bank on the 31st December 1890, by 5,694 depositors, the sum of

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467,347*l.* 11*s.* 11½*d.* Interest at the rate of 2 per cent. per annum is paid on any deposit not less than five shillings and not exceeding 100*l.*

Interest is reckoned from the 1st of the month following the day onwhich a deposit is made, and reckoned every month.

Sums of money deposited in excess of 100*l.* are considered as placed in the bank for safe custody only, and do not bear interest.

The interest on money deposited in the name of any one person ceases on the death of the depositor.

Education.

According to statistical information rendered by the Director of Education to the Senate of the University, it appears that the per-centage of attendance during the scholastic year 1889–90 was 80·8, and the cost of each child's instruction amounted to 1*l.* 1*s.* 1½*d.* The number of children having increased by 1,864, the total number of children receiving instruction in the Government schools was, in October 1890, 11,226, and no less than 2,428 children have been refused admission, owing to insufficient accommodation.

The Senate of the University, in their last annual report, proposed several measures affecting the educational interest of these islands, viz. :—

1. The erection of new buildings for primary schools in those districts where, either on account of insufficient accommodation or on sanitary grounds, suitable premises are wanting.
2. The adoption of the scheme for the classification and raising of the salaries of the teachers in the primary schools.
3. The adoption of the amendment to Articles 82 and 140 of the statute of the University, respecting the conditions under which the academical degrees of M.A. and B.A. may be obtained ; and
4. The grant of 30*l.* for the improvement of the instruction given in the training school of the assistant teachers of the primary schools, and a like sum for the establishment of a class of phonography in the Lyceum.

Imports.

The total value of the imports in 1890 was 23,679,321*l.*, showing a falling off compared with 1889 of 607,791*l.*

The value of the imports from the United Kingdom was 134,148*l.*

Exports.

The total value of the exports amounted to 22,144,067*l.*, against 3,627,082*l.* in the previous year.

The exports to the United Kingdom were valued at 3,981,885*l.*

Agriculture.

No marked improvements can be said to have been introduced in agriculture and manufactures during this year; the rental value of land has continued to decline, but the manufacture of cotton stuff and of lucifer matches has considerably progressed.

Progress continues to be made in the cultivation of potatoes and onions. These articles can be brought to maturity much earlier than those grown in other parts of the Continent, thus commanding a good price in the English market.

Shipping.

The arrivals in 1890 were 3,863 steamers and 1,130 sailing vessels. This shows a decrease of 435 steamers and 192 sailing vessels when compared with those of the previous year.

The cause of this decrease is chiefly due to the keen competition evinced in the neighbouring ports, where better advantages are offered in the way of wharves and coaling facilities.

This competition has been so much felt here that a commission appointed by the Malta Chamber of Commerce have recommended to Government the exemption from the port dues of all steamers which call at Malta, and the revision of the Customs Tariff to replenish the Treasury.

Criminal Statistics.

The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates was 13,466, of whom 12,734 were summarily convicted, and 732 acquitted.

The number of cases treated in Her Majesty's Criminal Court was 120; of these 2 were for murder, 1 for manslaughter, 1 for attempt at murder, 1 for child murder, 49 for offences against the person, 2 for robbery with violence, 22 for offences against property, 14 for offences against the peace of families, and 4 for other offences.

Miscellaneous.

The principal achievement in the path of reform during the year 1890 was the re-organisation of the Malta Police Force, hitherto considered a task fraught with insuperable difficulties.

After protracted discussion, the Council voted an addition of 15,050*l.* 19*s.* 9*d.* a year for this force, providing for the addition of 136 men, and for the introduction in the police organisation of a new grade of officers, to be selected from the higher classes of society. This measure, together with a considerable increase in the rates of pay, merit pay, and efficiency pay, and the appointment of an efficient and responsible chief, rapidly produced a highly satisfactory change in the standing of the police force.

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The Maltese Government, in order to provide substantial assurances to steamers calling to coal at this port, have undertaken the responsibility of causing to be weighed by Custom House weighers, and guarded by Custom House guards, coals supplied to steamers. Whenever the agents and firms supplying coal desire to adopt this system, and to reimburse the expense thereof, the coals are weighed by Custom House weighers, watched by Custom House guards, and placed on board under proper supervision.

Since the introduction of this system, at the end of 1890, steamers do not appear to have had any reasonable cause of complaint as to speedy despatch, and their owners have been enabled to obtain security that their ships have taken their full weight of coals.

The future prosperity of Malta as a port of call appears to depend on a further development of modern principles of commercial security and despatch, as exemplified by the above measures and by Ordinance No. 1 of 1890, "To provide for the "better protection of the owners of coal stored or afloat in the "harbours." A scheme for lighting the harbours, as well as the town, by electricity was set on foot in 1890, by obtaining the advice of Mr. Preece of the London General Post Office, and it is hoped that it will ultimately recommend itself for adoption by the Council of Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. STRICKLAND,

Chief Secretary to Government.

To His Excellency
Sir H. A. Smyth, K.C.M.G.,
Governor of Malta,
&c. &c. &c.

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REPORT for 1891.

SIR H. A. SMYTH to LORD KNUTSFORD.

MY LORD, Palace, Valletta, July 1, 1892.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith, for your Lordship's information, the Chief Secretary's Report on the Blue Book for 1891.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. (Signed) H. A. SMYTH,
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G., Governor.
&c. &c. &c.

Chief Secretary's Office, Malta,

SIR, 1892.

I HAVE the honour to submit to your Excellency the following report on the Blue Book for the year 1891:—

Revenue.

——	Customs.			Other Receipts.			Total.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1888 - - -	156,600	0	5	83,545	13	$1\frac{1}{2}$	240,145	13	$6\frac{1}{2}$
1889 - - -	161,871	5	0	89,304	9	6	251,175	14	6
1890 - - -	160,162	5	8	101,091	19	$10\frac{1}{4}$	261,254	5	$6\frac{1}{4}$
	478,633	11	1	273,942	2	$5\frac{4}{4}$	752,575	13	$6\frac{3}{4}$
Average of the three years - -	159,544	10	$4\frac{1}{3}$	91,314	0	$9\frac{11}{12}$	250,858	11	$2\frac{3}{12}$
Revenue in 1891 -	166,777	1	8	108,348	0	$11\frac{3}{12}$	275,125	2	$7\frac{3}{12}$
Increase in 1891 -	7,232	11	$3\frac{2}{3}$	17,034	0	$1\frac{1}{3}$	24,266	11	5

The following table compares the actual revenue for 1891 with that of 1890:—

——	Customs.			Other Receipts.			Total.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1890 - - -	160,162	5	8	101,091	19	$10\frac{1}{4}$	261,254	5	$6\frac{1}{4}$
1891 - - -	166,777	1	8	108,348	0	$11\frac{1}{4}$	275,125	2	$7\frac{1}{4}$
Increase - -	6,614	16	0	7,256	1	1	13,870	17	1

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The following table compares the revenue in 1891 with the revenue as estimated:—

Heads of Revenue.	Estimate.	Actual Revenue.	Excess.	Decrease.
	£ s. d	£ s. d.	£ s. d	£ s. d.
Customs	141,107 0 0	155,085 11 1	13,978 11 1	—
Harbour and quarantine dues	11,669 0 0	10,784 11 0	—	884 9 0
Licences, court fees, &c.	4,301 0 0	5,473 17 8¾	1,172 17 8¾	—
Fees of court or office payments for specific services and reimbursements	16,288 0 0	20,782 15 6¼	4,494 15 6¼	—
Post office	9,338 0 0	10,815 7 9	1,477 7 9	—
Water service	4,188 0 0	4,643 1 2	455 1 2	—
Rents—Land	14,696 0 0	14,312 11 11½	—	383 8 0½
Rents exclusive of land	23,714 0 0	25,094 6 2¼	1,380 6 2¼	—
Rents onccount of foundations	3,948 0 0	4,073 7 10¾	125 7 10¾	—
Interest	22,048 0 0	24,059 12 3¾	2,011 12 3¾	—
Total	251,297 0 0	275,125 2 7¼	25,095 19 7¾	1,267 17 0½
			1,267 17 0½	
Actual increase	—	—	23,828 27¼	—

The following table compares the revenue received in 1891 with that received in 1890.

Heads of Revenue.	Amount collected in 1890, classified according to Estimate of 1891.	Amount collected in 1891.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Customs	147,140 10 2	155,085 11 1	7,945 0 11	—
Harbour and quarantine dues	11,897 9 4	10,784 11 0	—	1,112 18 4
Licences, court fees, &c.	5,286 0 6½	5,473 17 8¾	187 17 2¼	—
Fees and reimbursements	19,345 17 6	20,782 15 6¼	1,436 18 0¼	—
Post office	10,452 1 2	10,815 7 9	363 6 7	—
Water service	4,232 9 9¾	4,643 1 2	410 11 4¼	—
Rents of land	14,819 2 8½	14,312 11 11½	—	506 10 9
Rents exclusive of land	24,567 1 2¾	25,094 6 2¼	527 4 11½	—
Rents on account of foundations	4,034 12 3¼	4,073 7 10¾	38 15 7½	—
Interest	19,479 0 9½	24,059 12 3¾	4,580 11 6¼	—
Total	261,254 5 6¼	275,125 2 7¼	15,490 6 2	1,619 9 1
			1,619 9 1	—
Actual increase	—	—	13,870 17 1	—

Expenditure.

——	Salaries and allowances.	Other Expenditure.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1888 - - -	90,477 1 8	121,836 0 3½	212,313 1 11½
1889 - - -	93,909 15 3	135,793 14 7	229,703 9 10
1890 - - -	97,476 7 11	169,424 2 2½	266,900 10 1½
	281,863 4 10	427,053 17 1	708,917 1 11
Average - - -	93,954 8 3⅓	142,351 5 8⅓	236,305 13 11⅔
1891 - - -	103,984 15 2	177,885 18 3	281,870 13 5
Increase - - -	10,030 6 10⅔	35,534 12 6⅔	45,564 19 5⅓

The following table compares the actual expenditure in 1891 with the estimate of expenditure.

——	Estimate.	Actual Expenditure.	Excess.	Saving.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Personal emoluments -	108,942 9 8	103,984 15 2	—	4,957 14 6
Other charges -	204,221 8 0	177,885 18 3	—	26,335 9 9
Total -	313,163 17 8	281,870 13 5	—	31,293 4 3

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The following is a comparison of the expenditure for 1891 with the expenditure for 1890.

—	Expenditure in 1890, classified according to the Estimate of 1891.	Expenditure in 1891.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Interest and burthens	15,451 16 2	16,266 14 3	814 18 1	—
Pensions	13,556 10 5½	12,335 19 10	—	1,220 10 7½
The Governor and Legislature	4,704 8 1	5,198 16 11	494 8 10	—
Chief Secretary	4,101 0 8	4,260 6 10	159 6 2	—
Receiver General	2,130 10 7	2,141 14 8	11 4 1	—
Customs	5,282 19 0	5,451 10 8	168 11 8	—
Audit and Contract Department	1,481 16 1	1,561 11 1	79 15 0	—
Printing office	966 13 6	939 17 0	—	26 16 6
Port and Marine Department	6,610 4 5	4,598 14 10	—	2,011 9 7
Legal Departments	17,061 8 10	17,799 10 7	738 1 9	—
Police Department	28,509 2 2	38,747 15 5	10,238 13 3	—
Prisons	3,206 2 1	3,319 18 9	113 16 8	—
Charitable institutions	37,531 10 8	39,310 9 4	1,778 18 8	—
Educational Department	18,722 13 11	19,602 6 4	879 12 5	—
Post Office	7,265 17 6	9,218 18 6	1,953 1 0	—
Railway Department	—	906 19 1	906 19 1	—
Military expenditure	5,000 0 0	5,000 0 0	—	—
Miscellaneous services	11,171 1 6	10,488 0 8	—	683 0 10
Superintendent of Works Department	81,825 18 4	6,269 8 3	1,555 17 2	—
Public works annually recurrent		57,780 3 4		
Public works extraordinary		19,332 3 11		
Stationery	1,041 4 10	—	—	1,041 4 10
	266,900 10 1½	281,870 13 5	19,953 5 8	4,983 2 4½
Government immovable Property account	—	6,135 7 6	6,135 7 6	—

Legislation.

The following Ordinances were passed by the Council of Government and promulgated during the year 1891 :—

No. I.

For applying a sum not exceeding 12,750*l.* 12*s.* 8*d.* to the service of the year 1889.

No. II.

To make some provisions for taking the census of these Islands in the year 1891.

No. III.

To amend Ordinance No. II. of 1891.

No. IV.

To amend the laws relative to the admission of any person to act in the capacity of master, mate, or engineer on board merchant ships, and to make some other provisions.

No. V.

To authorise the head of the Government to cause the alienation of certain stock, and again to invest the proceeds thereof in effecting certain remunerative works.

No. VI.

To amend Ordinance No. I. of 1874.

No. VII.

For applying a sum not exceeding 59,047*l.* 13*s.* 11½*d.* to the service of the year 1890.

No. VIII.

For applying a sum not exceeding 197,154*l.* 3*s.* 9*d.* to the service of the year 1891.

No. IX.

To amend Ordinance No. II. of 1884.

Civil Establishments.

The changes in office during the year were the following :—

Capt. C. Gatt, R.M.M., Superintendent of the Government Printing Office, has been appointed Assistant Secretary to Government for Gozo, instead of Mr. P. Trapani; Mr. A. Sciortino appointed Receiver General in place of Mr. G. Cousin, M.D., Mr. P. Trapani appointed Auditor General and Director of Contracts, in the place of Mr. A. Sciortino; Mr. T. P. Bellanti has been placed in charge of the Government Printing Office, in addition to his duties on the clerical establishment and as stenographer to the Council of Government; Mr. S. Staines, Master Mariner, on the amalgamation of the Port Department with the Customs Department, has been appointed to the new situation of "Chief Port Officer," Baron A. Chapelle, LL.D., appointed one of Her Majesty's Judges, in place of Dr. G. Gasan, deceased; Syndic Dr. G. B. Mifsud appointed to act as magistrate of judicial police; Mr. G. B. Mattei, Lieut. R.M.M., and Mr. A. Gouder, appointed assistant superintendents of police; Marquis G. C. Barbaro, of St. George, Capt. R.M.M., appointed superintendent of the Corradino Prison, instead of Mr. S. Staines; Reverend V. Vella appointed Chaplain of the Hospital of Santo Spirito, in the place of the Franciscan

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Friars who where detailed by the superior of their community to do duty in that hospital; Mr. J. S. Rutter, M.D., Mr. V. Grech, M.D., and Mr. J. E. Zammit, M.D., appointed district medical officers, respectively, for Siggieni, Hamrun, and Misida.

Population.

The population of these islands on the 31st December was reported to be as follows:—

—	Males.	Females.	Total.	Remarks.
Malta - - -	72,935	74,438	147,373	Not including the Queen's troops and their families.
Gozo - - -	8,925	9,755	18,680	
Total - -	81,860	84,193	166,053	

Births.

Males.	Females.	Total.
2,294	2,127	4,421

Deaths.

Males.	Females.	Total.
1,750	1,655	3,405

Marriages.

Males.	Females.	Total.
1,245	1,245	1,245

Savings Banks.

The amount of deposits in the savings bank was as follows:—

—	1891.	Depositors.	1890.	Depositors.
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	
In Malta - -	434,315 14 8	5,347	422,759 8 0½	5,116
In Gozo - -	40,887 2 4	622	38,406 15 3	578
	475,202 17 0	5,969	461,166 3 3½	5,694
Interest accrued due during 1891, and unpaid - -	6,585 15 0	—	—	—
Grand Total -	481,788 12 0	—	—	—

Savings Bank.—Profit and Loss Account.

Dr.	£	s.	d.	Cr.	£	s.	d.
Establishment Expenses:—				By Depositors' account:—			
To Salaries for 1891 - -	261	19	2	„ Recovered interest - -	28	14	3
„ Sundry office expenses -	164	16	5	„ Book account - - -	10	16	0
„ Rent account - - -	108	0	0	„ Dividends from consols -	11,099	2	9
„ Interest paid and due for 1891 - - - -	6,956	18	5	„ Interest from Monte -	1,624	10	0
	7,491	14	0				
Balance to profit - -	5,271	9	0				
	12,763	3	0		12,763	3	0

Balance Sheet of the Savings Banks on 31*st December* 1891.

Dr.	£	s.	d.	Cr.	£	s.	d.
To Treasury banking account -	27,545	2	2	By Depositors' account - -	41788	12	0
„ Monte di Pietà - -	54,150	0	0	„ Malta Branch (Gozo) account current - -	399	6	11
„ Cash account - - -	399	6	11	„ Profit and loss - -	5,271	9	0
„ Investments - - -	404,965	11	11				
„ Goza Branch (Malta) account current - - -	399	6	1				
	487,459	7	11		487,459	7	11

Balance Sheet of the Monte di Pietà on 31*st December* 1891.

Dr.	£	s.	d.	Cr.	£	s.	d.
Assets.				*Liabilities.*			
To landed property - -	70,214	15	10	By Stock - - - -	50,214	15	10
„ Cash - - - . -	192	18	11¾	„ Loans - - - -	7,569	2	9
„ Pawning transactions -	41,437	8	11¾	„ Savings bank - - -	54,150	0	0
„ Treasury banking account -	2,702	16	8½	„ Surplus on sales of pawns -	2,035	12	0½
„ Gozo Branch (Malta) account current - - -	74	16	2½	„ Malta Branch (Gozo) account current - -	74	16	2½
				„ Profit and loss - -	578	9	10½
	144,622	16	8½		144,622	16	8½

Education.

The following is a list of the Government educational establishments :—

	No. of Scholars.	
	1891.	1890.
The University, attended by - -	158	76
The Lyceum, attended by - -	450	450
Two Secondary Schools, attended by -	197	167
Seventy-six Primary Schools, attended by - - - - - -	10,800	10,244
Ten Infant Schools, attended by -	985	982
Total - -	12,590	11,919

The expenditure of the educational establishments amounted to 18,912*l.* 17*s.* 10*d.*, and the fees paid by the scholars for attendance in the University and Lyceum to 475*l.* 8*s.* 4*d.*

Imports and Exports.

	£		£	
The following is the value of cargoes imported and actually landed at this port -	1,019,088	in 1891, against	778,573	in 1890.
Value of cargoes which merely touched at this port and were re-exported in the same vessels - -	34,572,911	against	22,900,748	„
	35,591,999		23,679,321	„

viz.:—

From the U. Kingdom -	129,212	against	134,148	in 1890.
From the British Colonies	1,937,131	„	763,230	„
From H.M.'s ships in port	844	„	900	„
From foreign countries -	33,524,812	„	22,781,043	„
	35,591,999		23,679,321	„

showing an increase of 11,912,678*l.*

	£		£	
The value of exports from portions of cargoes which were actually landed at this port - -	50,209	in 1891, against	37,482	in 1890.
Value of exports of whole cargoes which merely touched at this port and proceeded in the same vessels -	34,905,768	against	22,106,585	„
	34,955,977		22,144,067	„

viz. :—

To the United Kingdom	5,705,751	against	3,981,885	in 1890.
„ British Colonies -	14,468,660	„	8,707,077	„
„ H.M.'s ships -	5,544	„	3,483	„
„ foreign countries -	14,776,022	„	9,451,622	„
	34,955,977		22,144,067	„

showing an increase of 12,811,910*l.*

The shipping movements in the port during the last three years are as follows :—

Year.	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1888 - - -	4,336	5,143,248	1,557	13,738
1889 - - -	4,298	5,099,734	1,322	108,720
1890 - - -	3,863	4,495,864	1,130	78,604
	12,497	14,738,846	4,009	319,062
Average - -	4,166	4,912,949	1,336	106,354
1891 - -	3,286	3,988,397	1,410	106,348
Decrease - -	880	924,552	—	6
Increase - -	—	—	74	—

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The following table compares the actual arrivals in 1891 with those in 1890 :—

Year.	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1890 - - - -	3,863	4,495,864	1,130	78,604
1891 - - - -	3,286	3,988,397	1,410	106,348
Decrease - - -	577	507,467	—	—
Increase - - -	—	—	280	27,744

Criminal Statistics.

The following is a statement of offences punishable under local laws, showing the number of accusations and of persons brought before the courts by the police in 1891 :—

Offences.	No. of Cases.	No. of Persons.	Acquitted.	Condemned.
Crimes against public tranquility - -	141	179	15	164
„ affecting public credit - -	5	8	2	6
„ „ the good order of families -	53	64	17	47
„ against the person - - -	804	1,007	124	883
„ „ property - - -	279	380	106	274
Contempt of court - - - -	7	8	—	8
CONTRAVENTIONS.				
Affecting public order - - -	1,599	2,823	277	2,546
Against the person - - - -	406	568	61	507
„ property - - - -	151	234	31	203
OTHER CONTRAVENTIONS.				
Under special Ordinances - - -	983	1,490	50	1,440
POLICE LAWS.				
Contraventions - - - -	3,532	5,861	162	5,699
Total - -	7,960	12,622	845	11,777

viz. :—

Maltese - - - -	12,421
English - - - -	129
Foreigners - - -	72
Total - - -	12,622

The number of persons committed to prison in 1891 was as follows:—

Men - - - - -	4,536
Women - - - - -	543
Boys - - - - -	1,108
Girls - - - - -	28
Total - - -	6,215

General Remarks.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue of the Colony received during the year 1891 amounted to 275,125*l.* 2*s.* 7¼*d.*; the balance available at the end of 1890 for services to be voted in 1891 was 50,683*l.* 18*s.* 5*d.*, making a total of 326,809*l.* 1s. 0¼*d.*

The expenditure for 1891 was 281,870*l.* 13*s.* 5*d.*; the corresponding figures for 1890 were: Revenue 261,254*l.* 5*s.* 6¼*d.*, available balance at the end of 1889 55,695*l.* 14*s.* 0¾*d.*, and expenditure 266,900*l.* 10*s.* 1½*d.*

Revenue.

The above figures show an increase in the revenue of 13,870*l.* 17*s.* 1*d.* Increases are shown under almost every head of revenue, the most noticeable being the increases on Customs receipts, 7,945*l.* 0*s.* 11*d.*; on fees and reimbursements, 1,436*l.* 18*s.* 0¼*d.*, and on interest, 4,580*l.* 11*s.* 6¼*d.* The increase on Customs receipts is due to greater importation of almost all articles subject to duty; that under "Fees and Reimbursements" is chiefly attributable to the fact that the rate (⅜) of the drainage expenses due by the Imperial Government in 1890 was cashed in 1891; and that under "Interest" is due to further investments in British consols, and to higher amount of profit of the savings bank.

The decreases were principally on "Harbour and Quarantine Dues," and on "Rents of Land." The cause of the decrease under the former head is due to the reduced number of arrivals of steamers, and to the absence of quarantine on arrivals from abroad, and that under the latter is attributable to the reduction of rent of several tenements, owing to the general depreciation of rural property.

Expenditure.

The total increase of expenditure as compared with 1890 was 14,970*l.* 3*s.* 3½*d.*

The increases are chiefly under heads "Police," "Charitable Institutions," "Post Office" and "Public Works Department," and

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are respectively due to the re-organization of the police force; to higher cost of provisions and articles of clothing and bedding in the charitable institutions; to the fact that a portion of the international transit rates and expenses for the International Bureau due in 1890 were paid in 1891, and to the large number of public works carried out in 1891.

Legislation.

Nine Ordinances were passed in 1891. The most important of these Ordinances were the following :—

No. II.—"To make some provisions for taking the Census of these Islands in the year 1891."

This Ordinance was drafted on the basis of the recommendations contained in the Report of the Commission appointed by his Excellency the Governor, on the 15th of April 1890, to whom was entrusted the duty of advising the Governor on the steps to be taken towards the preparation of the Census for 1891. The provisions of this Ordinance were assimilated, as far as possible, with those of the Imperial Census Act.

No. IV.—"To amend the laws relative to the admission of any person to act in the capacity of master, mate, or engineer on board merchant ships, and to make some other provisions."

This Ordinance, which repeals Ordinance No. II. of 1873, was rendered necessary in consequence of certain alterations in the Regulations issued by the Board of Trade relating to the examinations of masters, mates, and engineers.

One of the principal provisions in this Ordinance is to the effect that persons applying to be examined for any of the above grades need not produce documentary evidence that they have followed a regular course of studies in a school of navigation, or, as the case may be, in a Government school for mechanical engineers.

Article No. 37 of the old Ordinance, requiring that foreigners wishing to undergo an examination for any of the above grades must prove a residence of ten years in these Islands, is revoked.

No. VI.—"To amend Ordinance No. I. of 1874."

This Ordinance is in part a consequence of the passing of Ordinance No. IV.; extends the jurisdiction of the magistrates in dealing with shipping inquiries, and modifies the fees payable to nautical assessors.

No. V.—"To authorise the head of the Government to cause the alienation of certain stock, and again to invest the proceeds "thereof in effecting certain remunerative works."

The stock alluded to in this Ordinance is the amount of the money derived from the sales of Government property separately invested in consols.

This Ordinance authorises the Government to re-invest the proceeds of the stock in the erection of buildings to serve as

Government schools, police stations, Government dispensaries, and such other works as would, if rented, yield a larger profit than the rate of interest on the money so invested in consols.

Legislative Council.

The Legislative Council met for business during the year 1891 on the 14th of January and sat until the 6th May; by Proclamations dated respectively the 19th June and the 15th July the Council was prorogued, and on the 31st October last the Council met again, when the elected members were sworn in.

Civil Establishment.

During the temporary absence of his Excellency the Governor, the administration of the Government was carried on by the late Major-General Hales Wilkie, who has been nominated and appointed Deputy Governor, from 6th to 14th April, and from 6th August to 22nd September last.

On the 6th August I left on leave of absence, and on the 10th of same month returned to this Island and resumed the duties of my office. During my short absence the Honourable F. Vella acted as Chief Secretary to Government, and F. Musci, Esq., acted as Collector of Customs.

Sir Adrian Dingli, G.C.M.G., C.B., LL.D., was granted leave of absence from the 1st July to the 30th September, and Sir S. Naudi, K.C.M.G., the senior judge, acted as Chief Justice.

The Honourable Sir Joseph Carbone, K.C.M.G., LL.D., left the Island on the 27th July on the public service, and did not return until the 7th September, during which period Alfredo Naudi, Esq., LL.D., acted as Crown Advocate.

The Honourable A. Sciortino obtained three months' leave of absence to proceed to the Continent, from the 10th July, and E. Trapani, Esq., was appointed to act as Auditor-General and Director of Contracts.

The Honourable R. Micallef proceeded on leave of absence on the 26th July, and C. Bonavia, Esq., was appointed to act as Comptroller of Charitable Institutions.

Securities of Public Officers.

At the annual inspection of securities it was found that 36 officers in positions of trust give security for the due discharge of their duties, and the sums for which they were liable varied from 25*l.* to 2,000*l.*

The value of the sureties of the various officers was duly inquired into and found to be satisfactory.

Foreign Consuls.

On the 1st September Mr. Andrea Charalambis succeeded Mr. L. C. Metaxà in the Greek Consulate. His exequator was signed on the 19th August 1891.

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Mr. Joseph F. Balbi was appointed Vice-Consul for the United States of America in the place of Mr. C. B. Eynaud, deceased.

No new consulates were established in the Colony during the year.

Population.

The population is steadily increasing. The enumerations taken in the Census on the 5th April were 165,037.

To this may be added 1,016, to represent the excess of births over deaths between the above date and 31st December, and the estimated population at the close of the year may be put down as 166,053.

The birth-rate in 1891 was	26·6	against	38·1	in	1890.
The death-rate „	20·5	„	26·6	„	
The marriage rate „	7·4	„	6·7	„	

The health of the Island was good throughout the year, and there was no epidemic disease.

Savings Banks.

The deposits in the savings banks up to 31st December 1891 amounted to 475,202*l.* 17*s.*, or a net addition of 14,036*l.* 13*s.* 8½*d.* to the total investments at the beginning of the year.

The number of depositors in 1891 were 5,969 as against 5,694 in 1890.

The interest paid and remaining due in 1891 amounted to 6,956*l.* 18*s.* 5*d.*, and the dividends from money belonging to the savings bank and invested in the Consols, and in the Monte di Pietà were 11,099*l.* 2*s.* 9*d.* and 1,624*l.* 10*s.* respectively.

Education.

Under the management of the Director of Education, assisted by an inspector, the education of these Islands progresses rapidly. The number of children admitted into the primary and infant schools, as far as the accommodation admits, increases year by year, and the anxiety of the lower class of the population to profit by the elementary instruction offered to them is most marked.

The Director of Education reports that out of the 36,790 children of school age, 2,474 were returned in the last Census as attending private schools, and 11,785 were, on the 1st September last, in the Government elementary schools.

The total of 11,785 children in the elementary schools represents 32·03 per cent. of the whole number of children of school age, and 7·14 per cent. of the whole population.

In former Reports the Director constantly dwelt upon the special drawbacks inherent in many of our elementary schools upon the manifold difficulties the teachers have to contend with, and on the urgency of providing more accommodation for the

numerous children seeking admission. Steps, however, are now being taken to prepare plans and estimates for the building of the new schools in that district in which the need is greatest, and for the enlargement of four other school buildings which are Government property.

Imports and Exports.

The imports of the Colony in 1891 were valued at 35,591,999*l.* This is an increase of 11,912,678*l.* as compared with the imports of 1890, which amounted to 23,679,321*l.*

This increase is due to the increased importation of goods subject to duty, these imports being valued at 1,019,088*l.* for cargoes actually landed at this port, and at 34,572,911*l.* for cargoes which merely touched at this port, as against 778,573*l.* and 22,900,748*l.* in 1890.

The value of the exports was 34,955,977*l.* in 1891 as against 22,144,067*l.* in 1890, showing an increase of 12,811,910*l.*

The difference in the exports between the two years is accounted for by the increase in the quantity of articles subject to duty, viz., 12,727*l.*, value of goods from portions of cargoes which were actually landed at this port, and 12,799,183*l.* value of exports of cargoes which actually touched at this port and proceeded in the same vessels.

Shipping.

The steam vessels entered and cleared at the port of Malta were less in number and in tonnage than in 1890.

In 1891, 3,286 steamers, with a tonnage of 3,988,397, and 1,410 sailing ships, with a tonnage of 106,348, entered these ports.

During the preceding three years the annual average was 4,166 steamers with a tonnage of 4,912,949. This will bring in 1891 a reduction of 880 steamers and of 924,552 tons on the average of the three preceding years.

As to sailing vessels there has been an increase of 74 when compared with the average number of arrivals during the preceding three years, and an increase of 280 as against the arrivals of 1890.

The cause of the reduction in the number of steamers is attributed to the increasing use of triple expansion engines, which has considerably reduced the consumption of coals, and most of the steamers are thus enabled to continue their voyages without calling at Malta as often as heretofore.

The closing of the trade of ports of the Black Sea for this year, owing to the deficient harvest in Russia, is another cause that has reduced the number of steamers calling at this port.

The importation of coal has also decreased, which circumstance, coupled with the steady reduction in the number of arrivals, has caused considerable depression and lack of work among the coal-heavers.

MALTA.

Criminal Statistics.

The returns under this head respecting the number of apprehensions, convictions, and acquittals for the last two years show a reduction in the number of crimes in 1891.

In the courts of the police magistrates the summary convictions were as follows: 1,327 for offences against the person as against 985 in 1890; for offences against the good order of families there were 36 as against 28 during the previous year; 424 were for offences against property as against 406 in 1890; and for other offences there were 9,872 as against 11,201.

The number of persons acquitted in the above courts amounted to 803.

The number of convictions in the Superior Courts, Criminal Branch, were 63 for offences against the person; 11 for offences against the good order of families; 53 for offences against property; and 6 for other offences, besides other 27 indictments, in which judgments were given for the prisoners.

The total number of the above apprehensions amounted to 12,622 as against 13,466 in 1890, classified as follows:—

12,421 Maltese against 13,318 in 1890; 129 English against 109 in 1890; and 72 foreigners against 39 in 1890.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. STRICKLAND,
Chief Secretary to Government.

To His Excellency
Sir H. A. Smyth, K.C.M.G.,
Governor of Malta,
&c. &c. &c.

LONDON: Printed by EYRE and SPOTTISWOODE,
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For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

No. 27.

MAURITIUS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1890.

(For Report for 1889 *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 2.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

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1892.

[C.—6563.–11.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following among other Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

No.	Colony.	Year.
93	St. Vincent	1888
94	St. Vincent	1889
95	Bahamas	,,
96	St. Lucia	,,
97	British Bechuanaland	1888–9
98	Turks and Caicos	1889
99	Gambia	,,
100	Straits Settlements	,,
101	St. Kitts-Nevis	1886
102	Basutoland (Governor's visit)	1890
103	British New Guinea	1888–9
104	Natal	1889
105	Malta	,,
106	British Guiana	,,
107	Barbados	,,
108	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
109	Western Australia	,,
110	Gold Coast (Agriculture)	1890
111	Labuan	1889
112	Jamaica	,,
113	Falkland Islands	,,
114	Basutoland	1889–90
115	Sierra Leone	1889
116	Fiji	,,
117	Hong Kong	,,
118	St. Helena	,,

NEW SERIES OF COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

1	British Honduras	1889
2	Mauritius	,,
3	British Bechuanaland	1889–90
4	Victoria	1889
5	Newfoundland	,,
6	British New Guinea	1889–90
7	St. Vincent	1890
8	Bermuda	,,
9	Leeward Islands	1889
10	St. Lucia	1890
11	Bahamas	,,
12	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
13	Gibraltar	,,
14	Zululand	,,
15	Sierra Leone	,,
16	Barbados	,,
17	Falkland Islands	,,
18	Labuan	,,
19	British Honduras	,,
20	Basutoland	1890–91
21	Trinidad and Tobago	1890
22	Leeward Islands	,,
23	Grenada	,,
24	Straits Settlements	,,
25	British Guiana	,,
26	St. Helena	,,

No. 27.

MAURITIUS.

[For Report for 1889 *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 2.]

Sir C. C. LEES to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, Mauritius,
September 9, 1891.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the Mauritius Blue Book for the year 1890, together with a copy of a report upon the Blue Book by Mr. Elliott.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. C. LEES,
Governor.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT to accompany the BLUE BOOK for 1890.

Revenue and Expenditure.

1. The revenue received in 1890 was Rs. 7,774,773, an increase of Rs. 376,440 over the amount estimated. This increase is in a great measure due to Customs duties paid on an unusual amount of goods withdrawn from bond towards the close of the year in anticipation of the passing of an Ordinance, which was under the consideration of the Council of Government, to authorise the levying of a surcharge of 10 per cent. on the principal items of revenue.

2. There was also an increase in the amount received from harbour dues, owing to the passing of an Ordinance imposing increased dues which came into force in September 1890.

3. The increased duty on rum issued for home consumption, which was imposed by Ordinance 17 of 1889, also contributed to the excess of revenue over estimates.

4. There was an increase in the revenue derived from the Post Office, a part of which is attributable to the establishment of the system of postal parcels.

5. There was a decrease in the revenue expected under the head of Interest and Exchange, which is owing to the rate of exchange having fallen below the rate at which it was estimated the amounts collected in England would be brought to account.

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6. The expenditure in 1890 was Rs. 7,705,311, which was Rs. 264,747 less than the amount estimated.

7. This decrease is attributable to savings on establishments, to the payment in 1890 of subsidy for the Colombo Mail Service for one quarter only, while provision had been made for the whole year, to a less expenditure on account of coal for the railway, the amount expected from Australia not having been shipped owing to strikes; and to the fall in the rate of exchange, so that the whole amount anticipated for that item was not required.

8. The saving on coal was able to be effected because the Railway Department drew from its reserve stock, which will have to be made good this year.

9. When the year opened it was estimated that the revenue would fall short of the expenditure by Rs. 571,725, but this deficit, owing to the causes previously mentioned, was converted into a surplus of Rs. 69,462.

Imports and Exports.

10. The trade for the year was valued at Rs. 44,323,642, against Rs. 50,875,235 in 1889, and Rs. 49,378,905 in 1888; divided into—

	1888.	1889.	1890.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Imports - - -	16,538,469	17,676,556	16,702,818
Exports - - -	32,840,436	33,198,679	27,620,824

or, exclusive of specie and bullion—

	1888.	1889.	1890.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Imports - - -	15,341,202	15,612,056	16,375,377
Exports - - -	32,291,978	32,806,715	26,962,930

11. The value of the principal imports for the three years 1888, 1889, and 1890 was as follows:—

	1888.	1889.	1890.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Animals - - - -	394,788	295,383	332,744
Apothecaries' ware - -	165,739	171,118	182,670
Grain, flour, meal - -	5,261,574	4,038,773	5,153,773
Provisions - - -	1,363,911	1,258,111	1,434,549
Malt liquors, wines and spirits -	868,065	856,623	823,657
Cotton manufactures - -	1,046,684	978,420	1,254,631
Woollen manufactures - -	147,278	212,433	218,597

——	1888.	1889.	1890.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Haberdashery - - -	354,076	333,307	407,245
Coal - - - -	351,168	839,385	542,372
Machinery - - -	80,014	135,285	209,607
Iron and steel - - -	144,536	198,639	193,691
Hardware and cutlery - -	450,247	566,340	1,043,452
Leather, wrought and unwrought - - -	217,287	260,465	243,721
Manure and fertilizers - -	1,256,042	2,155,611	1,100,217
Oil of all kinds - - -	526,941	601,562	764,064
Tobacco - - -	185,327	139,776	193,304
Total - - -	12,813,677	13,041,231	14,098,294

12. The value of the imports given in the Blue Book is the declared value at the port of shipment, value in sterling being converted into rupees at 10 per £. Nothing is added for charges and exchange, the amount of which is shown in a separate column.

13. Were the charges and exchange added to the declared value of the imports the great disparity between the amount of the imports and exports would be very much diminished, as will be seen from the following table, which shows the result of adding the charges and exchange to the value of the imports given in the preceding table:—

——	1888.	1889.	1890.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Animals - - - -	697,640	524,741	551,820
Apothecaries' ware - -	287,424	299,335	302,197
Grain, flour, meal - -	7,306,008	5,599,672	7,070,167
Provisions - - -	2,204,676	2,045,895	2,231,893
Malt liquors, wine, and spirits -	1,496,864	1,506,552	1,367,227
Cotton manufactures - -	1,651,627	1,543,804	1,949,851
Woollen manufactures - -	250,822	364,365	358,275
Haberdashery - - -	607,386	575,653	667,081
Coal - - - -	944,643	2,274,448	1,408,150
Machinery - - -	139,224	238,097	347,948
Iron and steel - - -	248,959	345,815	320,269
Hardware and cutlery - -	779,711	986,725	1,724,693
Leather, wrought and unwrought - - -	370,730	448,435	399,247
Manure and fertilizers - -	2,168,741	3,700,562	1,757,762
Oil of all kinds - - -	791,636	821,954	1,121,645
Tobacco - - - -	292,443	223,496	298,784
Total - - -	20,238,534	21,499,549	21,877,009

14. The principal export of the Colony is sugar, and the following table shows in kilogrammes (1,000 of which make a ton) the quantity exported in the years 1888, 1889, and 1890; the value in

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rupees as declared at the Custom House; and the rate calculated therefrom per 100 kilogrammes:—

Year.	Quantity exported in Kilogrammes.	Declared Value in Rupees.	Value per 100 Kilogrammes.
			Rs.
1888 - - -	130,066,518	28,754,798	22
1889 - - -	141,783,434	28,994,791	20
1890 - - -	128,405,938	23,483,868	18

From this it will be seen that the crop in 1890 was not only inferior in quantity to those of the two previous years, but that the selling price of sugar had fallen considerably; the value of 100 kilos. being in 1890 Rs. 18 against Rs. 20 in 1889, and Rs. 22 in 1888.

15. The principal markets for our sugar were:—

	1888.	1889.	1890.
	Kilos.	Kilos.	Kilos.
India - - - -	66,077,096	63,981,575	68,260,803
Australasia - - -	31,775,136	41,634,740	30,185,866
United Kingdom - -	12,291,913	14,112,787	14,995,667
Cape Colonies - - -	8,667,146	10,666,308	11,741,487
United States - - -	6,340,467	8,949,065	1,505,126
Ceylon - - - -	2,819,628	1,198,576	596,901

While the exports of sugar to India, the United Kingdom, and the Cape Colonies have increased, there has been a great decline in the quantity exported to the United States and Ceylon.

16. During the year 1890 a trial of the diffusion system for the extraction of sugar from the cane was made on Britannia Estate, belonging to the Oriental Bank Estates Company, and it appears from the figures given by the manager of the Company that the quantity of sugar obtained by this system was about 30 per cent. beyond the amount that would have been obtained by the ordinary process of sugar making.

17. The cost of the necessary apparatus and of its installation was advanced from the Colonial Treasury, and will be recovered by a small addition to the export duty on sugar.

18. While attention has thus been given to the question of how to extract from the cane the largest possible amount of sugar, the necessity of obtaining from the soil a larger yield of canes containing a larger amount of sugar has not been lost sight of, and with the

approval of the Council of Government a station at Agronomique is about to be created where experiments will be made with the object of improving the system of cultivation to its utmost limit.

Shipping.

19. The following table gives the number of ships and their tonnage, entered inwards and cleared outwards in 1888, 1889, and 1890 :—

Year.	Inwards.		Outwards.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
1888 - - -	465	314,432	449	307,912
1889 - - -	436	336,794	441	329,245
1890 - - -	456	343,302	463	346,320

20. A commission appointed to consider what improvements should be made in the harbour with a view to provide better accommodation for the larger class of vessels that now frequent it has sent in a report, and the subject is under consideration.

Population.

21. The estimated population for 1890 was on the 31st December 377,986, being an increase of 5,322 over that of 1889 at the same date. The general population was estimated at 119,001, of which 62,101 were males and 56,900 females. Of the Indian population, estimated at 258,985, 149,264 were males and 109,721 females.

22. The births registered in 1890 were 13,303 and the deaths 12,781.

23. The birth-rate was lower than it has been of late years, 1888 excepted, when the rate was about the same.

24. The mean annual death-rate in 1890 was 34·3 per thousand, a very high rate. With the exceptions of the years 1882, 1883, and 1887, the mortality of 1890 was higher than that of any year since the time of the great fever.

25. The Sanitary Commission, which was appointed in 1890, having suggested that the services of an engineer well versed in sanitary and water supply questions be secured, Mr. Osbert Chadwick, sanitary engineer, is now considering what measures can be adopted to improve the public health.

Education.

26. The average number of pupils in the Royal College and Royal College Schools in 1890 was 475, an increase of 29 over the number who attended in 1889, but 18 below the number in 1888. 187 pupils belonged to the Royal College proper, which is in Port Louis; the College School in Port Louis had 140 pupils, and the College School at Curepipe 148.

27. The staff of the Royal College and College Schools consists of a rector and 42 professors and masters, besides which there are four religious instructors and four ushers.

28. The Royal College is affiliated to the University of London, and many of its pupils have graduated there.

29. Eight private schools in the Colony are received into association with the Royal College; their pupils following the course of secondary instruction prescribed for the pupils of the Royal College; and being required to submit to an annual examination held at the Royal College.

30. There are various classes of scholarships given as rewards to successful competitors at the annual examinations, the most valuable being those which are known as the English scholarships, awarded every year to the two most deserving pupils, who are sent to pursue their studies in the United Kingdom, and who receive an annual allowance of 200*l.* for four years, and the cost of their passage to and from England.

31. The average number of scholars on the rolls of the Government schools and grant-in-aid schools in 1890 was 15,743, an increase of 191 over the number who attended in 1889, but 128 below the number in 1888.

32. The average attendance in these schools in 1890 was about the same as in 1889, and the superintendent of schools says that considering (1) the fever which prevailed as usual in Port Louis, and in the low-lying parts of the Colony during the first four or five months of the year, after the setting in of the heavy rains; and (2) the epidemic of influenza which broke out in the middle of the year and lasted for several months, that attendance may be considered somewhat satisfactory, and bears favourable comparison with the attendance of previous years.

33. The expenditure on educational purposes in 1890 was Rs. 422,298, against a sum of Rs. 413,146 in 1889 and of Rs. 414,789 in 1888.

Post Office and Telegraphs.

34. The revenue collected in this department exceeded by Rs. 2,632 the amount collected in 1889. There was an increase of 86,674 in the number of letters which passed through the office, and of 5,792 in the number of postcards; but there was a decrease of 168,306 in the number of newspapers.

35. The mail service by the Messageries Maritimes Company was continued with great regularity, and a new mail service by

the vessels of the British India Steam Navigation Company, was commenced in the month of June. This is a four-weekly service between Mauritius and Colomb, where the steamers connect with lines to England, Australia, India, and China. Half the subsidy is paid by the Imperial Government and half by the Colony.

Railways.

36. The receipts for 1890 were Rs. 1,575,889, a decrease of Rs. 225,324 as compared with 1889. The reduction in the sugar crop is the principal cause of this decrease. The expenditure in 1890 was Rs. 1,106,304, a decrease of Rs. 200,089 on the expenditure of 1889.

37. The Acting General Manager reports that the passenger service was conducted with regularity; no delay in the running of the trains was complained of by the public, nor is he aware that any passenger received any damage through the fault of the Railway Department.

38. An extension of the Moka line, from Montagne Blanche Station to Rivière Sêche Station, which will connect the existing line with the North Line, has been sanctioned, and the work is now in hand

Immigration.

39. The number of Indian immigrants introduced into the Colony in 1890 was 3,025; 1,094 of whom were from Calcutta and 1,931 from Madras. They were conveyed in eight vessels, one of which was a sailing ship, while the others were steamers. Only one death occurred during the voyage from India, and that was on board the sailing ship.

40. The average cost of introduction per male statute adult was Rs. 154 . 32, a slight reduction on the cost of those introduced in 1889.

41. There was again a decrease in the number of immigrants leaving the Colony, the number recorded at the immigration depôt being 1,054.

42. The proportion of females to males among the immigrants who arrived in the Colony was 36 per cent., and the proportion of females to males in the departures was 27 · 6 per cent.

Poor Relief.

43. The expenditure under this head in 1890, including establishment charges, was Rs. 409,131, showing a diminution of Rs. 45,474 on the expenditure under the same head in 1889.

44. Indoor relief was given at Barkly Asylum and in several convents to infirm and destitute persons and to orphans: and at St. Lazare Asylum to lepers. In the public hospitals were received those unable to provide themselves with medical care and treatment.

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45. The number of persons assisted at the Barkly Asylum in 1890 was 954, against 754 in 1889, the number remaining on 31st December 1890 being 340. The number of deaths in the year was 67, against 65 in the previous year, and the ratio of mortality was 7·02 per cent., against 8·62 in 1889.

46. The number of lepers maintained at St. Lazare in 1890 was 314, against 303 in the previous year, the number remaining on 31st December 1890 being 156. The mortality in 1890 was 42 against 35 in the previous year, and the ratio of mortality was 13·37 per cent. against 12·02 in 1889.

47. The number of patients treated in the Public Hospitals in 1890 was 10,436, against 9,976 in 1889. Of these 8,331 were treated in hospitals in the rural districts, and 2,105 at the Civil Hospital in Port Louis. The total number of deaths in the several hospitals was 1,165, against 1,013 in 1889; and the ratio of mortality was 11·16 per cent. against 10·15 in the previous year.

48. Besides the medical care given to paupers in the public hospitals, there were 47,403 attendances of sick people at the public dispensaries, against 31,213 in 1889, showing the very large increase of 16,190 over the previous year, which is ascribed to a recrudescence of fever, and the epidemic of influenza.

49. Of the insane patients treated at the Government Lunatic Asylum, 473 were at the cost of the Poor Law Commission.

50. Out-door relief in the shape of rice and money was given to 11,977 persons against 12,848 in the previous year.

Criminal Statistics.

51. The following table shows the number of offences reported to the police or the magistrates in the last three years; the number of persons apprehended or summoned; the number of convictions in the inferior courts, and the number of acquittals.

Year.	Offences.	Persons.	Convictions.	Acquittals.
1888 - -	26,880	17,706	13,707	3,805
1889 - -	26,574	17,183	12,547	4,455
1890 - -	30,085	21,405	16,173	5,055

52. The convictions and acquittals in the Supreme Court during those years were:—

——	Convictions.	Acquittals.
1888 - - - -	129	23
1889 - - - -	83	13
1890 - - - -	101	13

53. The number of committals to gaol in those years is shown in the following statement:—

Year.	For Debt.	For non-payment of Fines and Costs.	For safe Custody or not furnishing Security.	For Penal Imprisonment.
1888 - -	17	2,224	1,550	4,160
1889 - -	10	1,848	1,591	3,937
1890 - -	13	2,037	1,885	4,943

54. The construction of a new central prison at Beau Bassin, six miles from town, has long occupied attention, and the building is being pressed on. The enclosure wall is finished, and one block containing accommodation for 520 prisoners is now occupied. When the work is completed there will be accommodation for 800 prisoners, and it will then be possible to close the existing central prison in Port Louis, and the district prisons at Flacq, Grand Port, and Savanne.

55. The reformatory for juvenile offenders is also under the management of the Superintendent of Prisons. 382 boys were sent to the reformatory in 1890, and the number remaining on 31 December was 128. The health of the boys was good, and there was but one death in the year caused by malarial fever.

Meteorological Observations.

56. Dr. Meldrum, the Director of the Royal Alfred Observatory has, as usual, contributed a valuable paper on the results of the Meteorological Observations taken during the year.

57. The mean temperature in the shade at the Observatory was 72 · 2 degrees against an average of 73 · 6 for the 16 years 1875–1890; the absolute highest temperature being 84 · 4 on 15th January, and the absolute lowest 53 · 5 on 26th July.

58. It should be stated that the Observatory is about three miles from the West Coast, and stands on a plain 178 feet above sea level.

59. The rainfall for the year at the Observatory was 53 · 17 inches on 208 days, against an average of 47 · 98 inches on 201 days for the last 16 years. The wettest months were February, March, and April, and the driest, September.

Legislation.

60. Thirty-two Ordinances were passed by the Council of Government in 1890.

MAURITIUS.

61. Ten of these deal with questions affecting the revenue of the Colony, the principal of which are Ordinances to amend the harbour dues, to impose a tax on the cultivation of tobacco, to amend the license laws, to levy a surcharge of 10 per cent. on the principal items of revenue, and to convert certain *ad valorem* Customs duties into fixed duties according to weight, measurement, or number.

62. The Ordinance to amend the law relating to the liquidation and partition of successions is of considerable importance. This Ordinance simplifies the procedure and renders less expensive the system of partition of successions such as it exists under the codes, and special provisions are made with regard to successions the assets of which do not exceed Rs. 6,000.

63. Another important measure was the Ordinance to provide for the payment of grants out of public funds in support of the established Church of Scotland, the Church of England, and the Roman Catholic Church in Mauritius, and for the distribution of such grants. This Ordinance was passed to give effect to the recommendations of the Committee of the whole Council of Government, which were practically accepted by all parties as a final and satisfactory settlement of the question of the redistribution of the Ecclesiastical grants.

64. Another Ordinance was passed to constitute the Presbyterial Committee of the Church of Scotland in Mauritius into a corporate body with defined powers of control and management.

65. Other Ordinances to which I may call attention are the following:— No. 12, to consolidate and amend the law relating to the emoluments of the Governor of Mauritius; No. 9, to amend the law relating to the Curatelle; No. 17, to consolidate and amend the law relating to the civil status; and No. 5, to amend the Quarantine Ordinance of 1887.

(Signed) THOMAS ELLIOTT,
7th September 1891. Acting Colonial Secretary.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 34.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1890.

(For Report for 1889 *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 5.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.



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1892.

[C.—6563.–18.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

No.	Colony.	Year.
106	British Guiana	1889
107	Barbados	,,
108	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
109	Western Australia	,,
110	Gold Coast (Agriculture)	1890
111	Labuan	1889
112	Jamaica	,,
113	Falkland Islands	,,
114	Basutoland	1889–90
115	Sierra Leone	1889
116	Fiji	,,
117	Hong Kong	,,
118	St. Helena	,,

NEW SERIES OF COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

1	British Honduras	1889
2	Mauritius	,,
3	British Bechuanaland	1889–90
4	Victoria	1889
5	Newfoundland	,,
6	British New Guinea	1889–90
7	St. Vincent	1890
8	Bermuda	,,
9	Leeward Islands	1889
10	St. Lucia	1890
11	Bahamas	,,
12	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
13	Gibraltar	,,
14	Zululand	,,
15	Sierra Leone	,,
16	Barbados	,,
17	Falkland Islands	,,
18	Labuan	,,
19	British Honduras	,,
20	Basutoland	1890–91
21	Trinidad and Tobago	1890
22	Leeward Islands	,,
23	Grenada	,,
24	Straits Settlements	,,
25	British Guiana	,,
26	St. Helena	,,
27	Mauritius	,,
28	Gambia	,,
29	Hong Kong	,,
30	Ceylon	1889
31	Lagos	,,
32	Lagos	1890
33	Ceylon	,,

No. 34.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

(For Report for 1889 *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 5.)

Sir TERENCE O'BRIEN to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, St. John's,
December 5, 1891.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the annual Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1890, together with the Colonial Secretary's Report thereon.

2. Though still much behind the regulated time, yet I am glad to find that they are submitted this year earlier than before, and I trust that in time greater punctuality will be arrived at; though from our length of coast and the difficulty of collecting returns from the out-harbours, most of which are closed in winter, I fear that we shall never be able to furnish these documents by the date laid down.

3. Last year was not, with the exception of that of Labrador, a good year for our fisheries; the progress, however, made in agriculture, lumbering, mining, &c., is satisfactory, showing that the great and undoubted resources of the Colony are beginning to attract some portion of the attention which has hitherto been devoted to the sea, and which, had they been diverted years ago into these channels, would have vastly increased the prosperity of the Island.

4. It is a great misfortune that, from its proximity to Europe, the capital and the largest amount of our population should be settled on the Peninsula of Avalon, the rocky coast of which, exposed to the fury of the Atlantic gales, first receives the fogs from the Banks, giving to the passer-by, at this our only port of call for mail steamers, but a very poor idea of the fogless climate, milder and more equable than that of Canada, the lovely scenery, fine land and vast forests, as well as of the great and varied mineral resources of other parts of the Island, which are only awaiting population, energy, capital, and enterprise for their development.

I have, &c.

(Signed) T. O'BRIEN, Lieut.-Colonel,
Governor.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

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NEWFOUNDLAND.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

I HAVE the honour to forward to you herewith the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1890, to be transmitted for the information of Her Majesty's Government.

Though still reaching your Excellency at a later date than is desirable, it is satisfactory to note, that having overcome some of the difficulties which lay in the way of an earlier issue, I am enabled to place it in your Excellency's hands two months earlier than last year.

General Condition of the Colony.

I am unable to announce any very marked improvement in the condition of our people as compared with 1889. A considerable falling off in the value of our exports will be observed, and these may fairly be taken to represent the earning power of the people. The following figures will show that the production of our fisheries, mines, &c., for 1890 was $617,533 less in value than that of the previous year. Including Labrador returns in both instances, the exports for 1889 amounted to $6,643,666, and in 1890 to $ 6,026,133. It will be noticed that this shortage is due not so much to decreased production as to a decline in value. Our staple industry, the cod fishery, produced 32,080 quintals less in 1889, while there was a diminution in value of three quarters of a million of dollars. Codfish in 1889 realised $4.30 per quintal, and in 1890 $3.72.

The take of lobsters for preserving purposes, though less in 1890 than in 1889 (69,334 cases to 76,216 cases), yielded a larger profit, the price per case having increased from $6.20 in 1889 to $7.50 in 1890.

It will also be noticed that there was a decline in the export of copper ore during the year. This decline may be attributed to the fact that the company working these mines was involved in litigation, and also to the reduced output from Little Bay, hitherto the most productive of our mines, consequent upon the large expense necessary in raising ore to the surface, a distance of over 1,500 feet.

There has been an increase of 285 in the number of depositors in the Savings Bank, and the gross amount of deposits shows an increase over last year of $107,353.38.

In concluding my observations upon the general condition of the Colony I take pleasure in noting the total absence of expenditure on account of able-bodied pauper relief. From the 1st of January to the end of March the Government continued work upon the Hall's Bay Railway, and those who suffered from a short fishery found employment in connexion with this work. In entering into a contract for the building of the Hall's Bay line provision has been made for the taking over, at a fair valuation, the work thus performed.

Finance.

The revenue of the Colony for 1890 amounted to $1,454,536.38, exclusive of loans, an increase over 1889 of $91,643. The receipts on account of Customs being $1,342,099.78 as compared with $1,243,031.44 in 1889.

The sum of $376,800 was received on account of loans, $136,000 of which was spent in railway construction prior to the arrangement under which the building of the Hall's Bay line was placed in the hands of contractors; $40,000 was expended in payment of bonuses for land cleared under the Crown Lands Act; $69,000 was appropriated to pay debentures falling due under the Sewerage Act; $24,000 was placed to the credit of public works, and the balance was taken up in reimbursing the Treasury for payments made on account of unforeseen contingencies. This sum of $376,800, to which must be added a further amount of $288,000 borrowed in 1889 on account of railway construction, making in all $664,800, is a temporary loan from the London and Westminster Bank, and does not form part of the funded debt of the Colony.

The expenditure for 1890 was $215,447.53 less than in 1889.

With regard to extraordinary expenditures it will be necessary to advert to the following:—

Of the sum of $73,804 expended under the several Acts relating to agriculture, $65,800 was used for the purpose of paying bonuses for land clearing as referred to under the head of Agriculture. Executive responsibility is debited with the sum of $11,335.59, of which $8,320 is on account of French Shore and United States Delegations. Hall's Bay railway construction, conducted during the winter of 1889–1890, cost the Colony $238,000, part of which was covered by the loan as mentioned above. The sum of $10,525 was expended in connexion with the construction of a lighthouse on the Penguin Islands. $50,000 from the Loan Account was placed to the credit of the Board of Works to meet overdrafts in that Department on account of Public Services in 1889, $51,158 was expended on account of Public Works, $36,000 of which was the regular allowance of $2,000 per district to the 18 Electoral Districts into which the Colony is divided, the balance being covered by loan.

Public Debt.

On December 31st, 1890, the Funded Public Debt of the Colony amounted to $4,138,627.49, having been increased by $5,425.06 during the year. This includes the debt ($607,000) due by the St. John's Municipal Council, but raised by the Colony, interest thereon being repaid to the Government by the said Council.

In addition to the above the Colony has a floating debt of $418,386.59; this, together with the temporary loan mentioned

NEWFOUNDLAND.

above, as being due to the London and Westminster Bank, will give the total indebtedness of the Colony at the end of 1890, *i.e.*, $5,221,814.08.

Trade.

The value of our imports for 1890 was $6,368,855, a decrease of $238,100 as compared with 1889. From Great Britain we imported $2,174,524 worth of goods; British Colonies, $2,168,763; foreign countries, $1,785,150. The principal articles under which an increased importation will be noted are as follows:—

Molasses (215,114 gals.), kerosene oil (24,491 gals.), refined sugar (1,012 cwts.), tea (54,541 lbs.), manufactured tobacco (13,283 lbs.).

A decreased importation will be observed under the following heads:—Ale and porter (6,780 gals.), apples (3,084 brls.), beef (4,559 brls.), butter (889 cwts.), flour (11,739 brls.), dried fruits (47,213 lbs.), lumber (566 M.), salt (4,511 tons), leaf tobacco (51,932 lbs.), wines (1,200 gals.), dry goods ($300,000). It will be interesting to note in connexion with the above, that while the imports from Great Britain and foreign countries decreased by $478,628 and $376,356 respectively, those from British Colonies ncreased by $616,774; *i.e.*, Canada $347,061, British West Indies 277,514.

Shipping.

In 1890, 2,764 vessels, aggregating a tonnage of 634,147 tons, were entered and cleared, which was a slight falling off from 1889. Of the above, 2,562 vessels, representing a tonnage of 590,006 tons, were British.

In 1889, the total number of vessels registered in the Colony was 2,208, measuring 99,812 tons, as against 2,207, measuring 98,619 tons in 1890.

Legislation.

A few of the more important Acts placed upon our statute books during the legislative session of 1890 may be noticed.

The Crown Lands Amendment Act has reference to the establishment of paper pulp factories; it grants licenses of not less than 5 square miles or more than 150; it subjects to certain conditions of working, &c. It also provides the means whereby the Crown may re-enter upon forfeited lands.

The Railway Act (amending 52 Vict. cap. 4.) provides for the acceptance of a loan for the construction of the Hall's Bay Line, at the rate of $15,600 per mile, payment to be in bonds bearing 3½ per cent. interest.

N.B. This line is a narrow gauge, *i.e.*, 3ft. 6in.

The Election Act (Amendment of Act of 1889) confers the franchise upon every male British subject of the full age of 21 years who has lived in the Colony two years and in the district one year prior to the election.

The Act for the encouragement of shipbuilding provides, among other things, for the employment of a Lloyd's surveyor, an official whose services have long been required in a Colony the bulk of whose inhabitants spend more than half their lives on ship-board.

Acts were also passed having reference to local government, municipal affairs (St. John's), game, representation, House of Assembly, commutation of prisoners' sentences, public health, registration of births, marriages, and deaths, and for the encouragement of the cultivation and manufacture of flax and hemp. Other Acts of minor importance were passed which do not call for any special mention.

Educational.

Under this head I have to report an increase in the legislative grant of $5,000, to be devoted to the purpose of securing to certain schools the benefits of a more advanced system of education. The returns show a slight falling off in the matter of attendance as compared with 1889. In that year the number of schools open was 549, with an attendance of 32,314. In 1890 these figures were 545 and 31,822 respectively. In 1890 the legislative grant was as follows :—

		$
Church of England	Board Schools - -	40,274
Church of Rome	do. - -	40,307
Methodist	do. - -	25,370
Other	do. - -	2,488
A total of -	- -	108,439

The amount actually expended on our schools, including Government and voluntary contributions and fees, was $127,360.

INDUSTRIES.

Fisheries.

The shore and bank cod fishery was not as productive as that of 1889. On the other hand, a measure of success such as has been unknown for the past 10 years has crowned the labours of our fishermen on the Labrador coast. In 1889, 186,933 quintals, valued at $635,572, was the result of the voyage ; in 1890 the total catch was 266,622 quintals, valued at $693,217.

The following comparative statement in reference to the bank fishery may be of interest:—

	1889.	1890.
Vessels - - - - -	330	279
Tonnage - - - - -	18,890	15,212
Crews - - - - -	4,401	3,719
Fish caught, quintals - - -	236,821	147,948
Average per vessel - - - -	718	530
Average per man - - - -	52	40

NEWFOUNDLAND.

The result of the herring fishery was on the whole satisfactory. The small catch on the Labrador was partly counterbalanced by a fairly successful shore fishery. Prices ruled higher than in 1889, and consequently the receipts from this industry were fully equal to those of last year. It is gratifying to note that the trade in frozen herrings with the United States is rapidly assuming such importance as to warrant the hope that at no distant date and under improved trade relations with the United States the people living on the western and southern shores of Newfoundland may find in this industry a valuable source of employment. Owing to the high rate of duty imposed upon herrings entering American ports in British bottoms, the people of this Colony have been unable to profitably engage in the shipment of frozen herrings to the United States and have been restricted to the selling of herring to those American vessels that may visit the coast during the winter. If the negotiations now proceeding for a convention of reciprocal trade between this Colony and the United States are brought to a successful issue, this trade in herrings will be conducted by local shipping, and will become a valuable auxiliary to the commerce of the Colony.

The result of the seal fishery, though well up to the average, presents a decline as compared with 1889 of $120,350 in value.

The lobster fishery has been already referred to. 3,508 tierces of salmon, valued at $70,166, were exported in 1890 as against 4,639, valued at $93,084 in 1889.

A short export of oils (seal, cod, &c.,) was very nearly met by an enhanced value, so that it may be said that this particular product of our fisheries presents no serious falling off as compared with 1889. Prices still rule very low, cod oil realising but $76 in the local market, and seal oil, $90. In 1870, 1878, 1881, cod oil commanded the following prices:—$144, $108, $116 per ton respectively, and seal oil, $170, $120, $120 per ton.

Shipbuilding.

Shipbuilding was not prosecuted with as much vigour as during the year 1889. The cause for this is not far to seek. In Newfoundland this industry is carried on, for the most part in winter when the fisherman, no longer occupied in the pursuit of his regular avocation, and, finding on the slippery surface of the frozen snow an easy means of communication between the forest and the sea-coast, devotes his time to this industry. A successful fishery gives him the means of procuring nails, cordage, canvass and the various accessories required for the building and fitting out of his vessel. The result of fishing operations in 1889 was not of such a nature as to place the means of building at the disposal of the fisherman. Moreover, the winter of 1889–90 was an exceptionally mild one, and material for shipbuilding could not be easily obtained.

Manufactures.

The manufacture of boneless codfish referred to last year has already developed into an industry of considerable importance, 142,000 lbs., packed in small cases, was exported in 1890, chiefly to Canada.

An attempt to preserve our native berries has proved fairly successful, and a ready market for some 5,000 cases of these preserves was found in the United States at $5 per case. As our berries, practically inexhaustible in quantity and of excellent quality, meet with a ready sale in both local and foreign markets, it is quite reasonable to anticipate that this industry will assume considerable importance.

Lumbering.

I am pleased to be able to state that the rapid development of this industry foreshadowed in last year's report has been realised. In addition to supplying the local markets to within some 2,000 M. feet of its requirements, 1,300 M. feet of a superior quality was exported to Great Britain. The following figures will show the development of this industry. In 1885 we imported 4,771 M. feet and exported 284 M., in 1889, imports 3,481¾ M. and exports 5½ M., and in 1890 the imports were 3,119 M. and exports 1,329 M. The lumber shipped in 1890 was valued at $15 per Mil. The exports of lumber have been from one locality, namely, Exploits.

It is computed that there are more than 2,000 square miles of valuable timber lands, principally pine, within the Colony. Mr. Howley, F.G.S., of the Geological Department, reports that there are 850 square miles of pine timber land in the Gander and Gambo River country, and 700 square miles on the borders of Exploits River and Red Indian Lake. To this must be added the but partially-surveyed timber limits of Deer Lake, Grand Pond, and Humber River country. It is safe to assume, therefore, that this industry will in the near future show considerable expansion. The timber supply of Canada, which, but a few years ago, was considered as almost inexhaustible, has, by reason of forest fires and indiscriminate cutting, begun to show signs of depletion, and Canadian lumber firms have already turned their attention to this Colony.

Mining.

Owing to the absence of roads through the interior, mining is still confined to within a mile or two of the sea-coast.

The mines worked during the year were Tilt Cove and Little Bay for copper ores, Moreton's Harbour for antimony, Pilley's Island for iron pyrites, and La Manche for galena.

This industry may be said to be yet in its infancy. The country gives promise of immense scope in this direction. Ores of anti-

NEWFOUNDLAND.

mony, zinc, molybdenite, manganese, chromite, nickel, hematite, rutile, gold, silver, &c. are all known to exist; while of the earthy minerals and non-metallic substances there are a great variety and in many cases an abundance of material. Marbles, granites, slates, serpentines, ornamental stones, sandstones, grindstones, limestones, soapstones, and gypsum abound, and asbestos, fluor-spar, graphite, mica, &c. are all found here. Clays suitable for the manufacture of brick and coarse pottery are abundant. During the past year valuable seams of coal have been discovered in the vicinity of St. George's Bay. Previous to this the St. George's Bay carboniferous area was generally thought to be destitute of workable coal seams, and as being occupied almost entirely by the lower measures, namely, the carboniferous limestone and millstone grit series. It is gratifying to be able to state that upon reference of the fossil plants and samples obtained during the year to Sir William Dawson, Principal of McGill University in Montreal, one of the most eminent authorities upon fossil botany in North America, he has given it as his opinion that "the specimens sent indicate a "development of the coal measures not unlike that of Eastern "Cape Breton with which the beds may be connected under the "gulf;" and he adds that the Government of this Colony would do well "to inform the English Government of the value of the coals "on the west coast and their prospective importance to Britain "and Newfoundland as well as to the other colonies. You have "the nearest coal to England on this side the Atlantic."

The investigation in the section of country referred to has brought to light 27 feet of coal, which is but 10 feet less than that of the North Sydney section. The analysis of this coal gives a per-centage of carbon not inferior to that of Cape Breton coal. This, together with the large deposits of magnetite existing in the same locality, cannot fail, ere long, when capital and skilled labour are brought to bear on them, to add greatly to the prosperity of the Colony.

Agriculture.

Although the Colony possesses vast stretches of excellent agricultural land, and a climate in no way inferior to that of the Dominion of Canada, this industry is seriously neglected. At the present time all the land cultivated is scattered along the sea board, where the soil is the thinnest and poorest, and where the cold, cutting sea winds tend to retard and stultify vegetation. This is owing, in the first place, to the fact that the population of the island, for the most part, is a fishing population; their avocation necessitates their residence along the seaboard, and precludes that attention to agriculture which is essential to success. In the second place, the lack of roads from the coast into the interior, where the best soil and most temperate climate is to be found, places it beyond the reach of those who may be disposed to turn from the fishery to farming. Although conducted under the unfavourable circumstances alluded to, this industry yields a return of about $950,000 per annum. There are about 58,000

acres of land under cultivation. There are about 28,500 tons of hay raised, 460 bushels of wheat and barley, 5,400 bushels of oats, 320,000 barrels of potatoes, 25,000 barrels of turnips, and 21,000 barrels of other root crops. The Act passed by the Legislature in 1888 for the promotion of agriculture under which a bounty of $12.00 per acre was offered for land cleared and made ready for crop, greatly stimulated this industry. Until the publication of the census of 1891 it is impossible to state definitely how much the Colony has progressed as regards increased production of crops, but in 1888, 1,794 acres of land were cleared; in 1889 2,679 acres, and during the past year 5,375, making a total during the three years that the Act has been in force (it ceases this year) of 9,848 acres, or about one-sixth of the total cleared land of the Colony. We now pay to Canada more than half a million of dollars per annum for agricultural produce, all of which might be raised within the Colony after a few years' attention to the soil.

The policy of the present Government has been, and still is, to open up the best lands of the interior to settlement by running a railway to the north and west and by carrying out a settlement scheme in conjunction therewith. It was to this end that the Government of this Colony approached Her Majesty's Government this year for an Imperial guarantee of a loan of $8,000,000. Should this be forthcoming, it is not difficult to foresee that in a very few years, able-bodied pauper relief, which is a certain corollary of a failure in the fisheries, and which is demoralising the people and bringing this Colony into financial embarrassment, will give place to a healthier and more prosperous condition of affairs.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. BOND,
Colonial Secretary.

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COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 37.

BRITISH NEW GUINEA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1890–1891.

(For Report for 1889–90, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 6.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
March 1892.



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1892.

[C.—6563.–21.]

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1	British Honduras	1889
2	Mauritius	,,
3	British Bechuanaland	1889–90
4	Victoria	1889
5	Newfoundland	,,
6	British New Guinea	1889–90
7	St. Vincent	1890
8	Bermuda	,,
9	Leeward Islands	1889
10	St. Lucia	1890
11	Bahamas	,,
12	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
13	Gibraltar	,,
14	Zululand	,,
15	Sierra Leone	,,
16	Barbados	,,
17	Falkland Islands	,,
18	Labuan	,,
19	British Honduras	,,
20	Basutoland	1890–91
21	Trinidad and Tobago	1890
22	Leeward Islands	,,
23	Grenada	,,
24	Straits Settlements	,,
25	British Guiana	,,
26	St. Helena	,,
27	Mauritius	,,
28	Gambia	,,
29	Hong Kong	,,
30	Ceylon	1889
31	Lagos	,,
32	Lagos	1890
33	Ceylon	,,
34	Newfoundland	,,
35	Jamaica	1889–91
36	Victoria	1890

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.

No. 37.

BRITISH NEW GUINEA.

[For Report for 1889–90, *see* Colonial Report, [Annual], No. 6.]

No. 1.

Sir H. W. Norman to Lord Knutsford.

Government House, Brisbane,
December 7, 1891.

My Lord,

I do myself the honour to transmit, for the information of your Lordship, six printed copies of a Despatch, dated the 25th ultimo, from his Honour Sir William MacGregor, submitting his Annual Report on British New Guinea for the year which ended on the 30th June 1891. I also enclose copy of a Minute by Sir Samuel Griffith, Chief Secretary of Queensland, dated the 4th instant, in reply to my memorandum in which I referred this Annual Report to him for remarks.

2. I concur with Sir Samuel Griffith that Sir William MacGregor's administration of British New Guinea during the first three years of his holding this office has been conspicuously successful, and I believe with him that, if the administration is continued on the same principles, the introduction of British rule will prove highly beneficial to the natives and honourable to the Empire.

3. Copies of all the Ordinances and Regulations referred to in the Report have already been placed before your Lordship, as well as the several reports of inspections and explorations, now given as Appendices A. to Q.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. W. Norman.

The Right Hon.
The Secretary of State
for the Colonies.

Chief Secretary's Office, Brisbane,
December 4, 1891.

The Chief Secretary submits his duty to your Excellency, and has the honour to return Sir William MacGregor's Annual Report for the year from the 1st of July 1890 to the 30th June 1891, which the Chief Secretary has read with much interest.

The Chief Secretary was aware, before the appointment of Sir William MacGregor as administrator of British New Guinea, of his views as to the opportunity which would be afforded in the

BRITISH NEW GUINEA.

Possession for making a systematic attempt, such as probably had never been made before, to elevate an almost entirely uncivilised native race, without any exploitation of either their land or their capacity for labour.

Sir Samuel Griffith ventures to express his opinion that Sir William MacGregor's administration hitherto has been conspicuously successful, and he is confident that, if the future administration of the Possession is continued on the same principles, the British rule will prove beneficial to the native races and advantageous and honourable to the Empire.

(Signed) S. W. GRIFFITH.

His Excellency
Sir Henry W. Norman, G.C.B.,
&c., &c., &c.,
Governor.

ANNUAL REPORT on BRITISH NEW GUINEA from 1st July 1890 to 30th June 1891.

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British New Guinea.

SIR, Brisbane, November 25th, 1891.

IN compliance with Section XXXVI. of the Royal Instructions I have the honour to present the Annual Report on British New Guinea for the year ending on the 30th June 1891. The arrangement of the matters dealt with is as nearly as possible that adopted in the Annual Report for the preceding year.

Legislation.

2. Seven Ordinances were duly passed within the period embraced by this Report. The first of these, Ordinance No. IV. of 1890, appropriates 11,250*l.* for the ordinary services of the administration—namely, 2,475*l.* for the Civil List, which is reserved to Her Majesty by the Letters Patent; and 8,775*l.* for other services. These votes were to meet expenditure for the three last quarters of the year, the first quarter having been provided for by Ordinance No. II. of 1890. For the purposes of exploration the sum of 869*l.* 18*s.* 7*d.* was set apart, being the unexpended balance to the credit of the Exploration Fund at the end of the previous financial year. For the maintenance of the s.s. "Merrie England" for the year ending on the 31st March, 1890 7,000*l.* was appropriated by the same Ordinance.

3. Ordinance No. V. of 1890 was passed to sanction what expenditure was made on certain services in addition to the sums set apart therefor by "The Appropriation Ordinance of 1889," viz., on vessels and boats, 310*l.* 17*s.* 11*d.*; on miscellaneous, 1,443*l.* 2*s.* 5*d.* The excesses of expenditure were covered by the savings effected on other items. The sum of 642*l.* 14*s.* 11*d.*, expended during the year from the Exploration Fund, was also sanctioned by this Ordinance.

4. Ordinance No. VI. of 1890 was passed by direction of the Secretary of State to amend "The Prisons Ordinance of 1889." It makes any Regulations passed under the Prisons Ordinance subject to disallowance by Her Majesty. It abolishes corporal punishment in the case of escaped convicted prisoners. It exempts debtors, persons confined for contempt or upon civil process, or for want of sureties to keep the peace, from the severer punishment provided in Sections XIX. and XX. of the Prisons Ordinance for prisoners assaulting prison officers or making their escape from prison. It also provides that "irons" shall be used only to prevent violence or escape and not as a punishment, and that prisoners shall not, except in cases of emergency, be required to work on Sundays and holidays.

5. Ordinance No. VII. of 1890, "To regulate the Dealing with Crown Lands," is the most important law passed during the year. Part I. regulates the settlement of land claims that date prior to the Declaration of Sovereignty. It directs that a Crown grant shall be issued for any land acquired on fair terms before a Protectorate was established over the territory, on the 6th

November 1884. As the purchase of land from natives was prohibited by proclamation at that date, it has been recognised that claims originating between the dates of the establishment of a Protectorate and of the Declaration of Sovereignty over the Possession are not entitled to the same consideration as those originating at a period when there were no restrictions as to purchasing land from native owners. In dealing with these the Administrator-in-Council may, therefore, use a discretionary power. *Bonâ fide* transactions in land entered into with the sanction of the Special Commissioner are recognised. Claims to land are to be forwarded to the Government Secretary, to be notified in the "Government Gazette," and after an inquiry has been made, and a full report in writing has been submitted, by a Resident Magistrate or some other officer, they are to be determined by the Administrator-in-Council. An applicant dissatisfied with the decision of the Administrator-in-Council may cause a full report of the case to be submitted for the instructions of one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, and these instructions when published in the "Government Gazette" become the final decision in the case.

Under "The Land Regulation Ordinance, 1888," no person can acquire any right, title, or interest in any land from a native owner, but the administrator may acquire land from natives to be held as Crown lands. Part II. of the Crown Lands Ordinance directs how such land, or an interest in such land, shall be acquired and the transaction be recorded. The transfer to the Crown is to be taken in the name of Her Majesty, and an attesting document is filed and recorded in the office of the Registrar-General. The Administrator cannot acquire land from the native owners if the latter require or are likely to require the land for their own use.

Waste and vacant lands not used nor likely to be required by the natives may be taken possession of by the Crown as Crown land. In such acquisitions an attesting instrument is to be prepared, with a full description of the land, and to be recorded in the office of the Registrar-General.

The Crown may afterwards enter on the register a disclaimer to any waste land so acquired, if after its acquisition any native owner can establish his right to it. When the Crown takes possession of waste or vacant lands the same is notified in the "Government Gazette."

Part III. gives power to prevent irregular settlement on land, and provides that persons taking possession of lands without having a legal right to do so may be removed.

By Part IV. the alienation of Crown lands in fee-simple is regulated. Lands may be sold by the Crown by private bargain or by public auction. Lands may be granted in trust for mission purposes at the price at which they were acquired by the Crown; but lands so granted revert to the Crown when no longer used for religious purposes.

In selling Crown lands as building allotments the Administrator-in-Council may impose such improvement conditions as may

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be deemed expedient. Crown lands may be alienated for agricultural purposes at any price not less than 2*s.* 6*d.* an acre, when the sale is made conditional on the *bonâ fide* introduction into the district of some new industry.

When no obligations for carrying out improvements are imposed the minimum price of Crown land is:—

For agricultural land, 10*s.* an acre.
For pastoral land, 2*s.* an acre.
For land for trading or fishing purposes, 5*l.* an acre.
For land for the planting of cocoanuts, 5*s.* an acre.

Areas not exceeding 50 acres may be sold on deferred payments extending over five years, but in that case the price cannot be less than 1*l.* an acre.

Crown lands may be leased under Part V. of the Ordinance. Agricultural land may be leased without any conditions as to improvement at a minimum yearly rental of 1*s.* an acre; but if improvement conditions are imposed no rent may be payable for thre years, and after that period the lowest rent an acre is 6*d.* a year.

The maximum period of leases for agricultural lands is 25 years. Leases may contain purchasing clauses.

Land may be leased for the planting of cocoanuts for any period not exceeding 60 years. The most favourable terms permissible under the law for land leased for the planting of cocoanuts are:—No rent for the first five years; for the second five years 6*d.* an acre; and for the remainder of the lease 1*s.* an acre. Under every such lease one-fourth of the land leased must be planted within the first five years.

6. Ordinance No. I. of 1891 defines certain words and expressions usually employed in Ordinances, Rules, and Regulations. "The Acts Shortening Act of 1867" of Queensland is to be read and construed with the Ordinance.

7. Ordinance No. II. of 1891 makes provision for the custody and reform of native children. Mandates for the care and custody of children may be issued by the Administrator or by a magistrate. They may be issued in respect of a child duly convicted of an offence; or of any child that is proved to the satisfaction of the Administrator to have committed an offence; or of any child that is an orphan or is deserted by its relatives. The child may be confided to the care and custody of the person in charge of any mission station, or to a Government officer, or to some private person.

When a mandate is issued it puts an end to any judicial punishment the child may have been sentenced to undergo; and any judicial proceedings instituted against the child are abandoned. Provision is made that the child shall be properly fed and cared for by the person to whom he has been entrusted by mandate. No mandate can affect a child after he is 18 years of age. Every child placed under a mandate is visited and reported on at least once in every year by a Resident Magistrate.

8. Ordinance No. III. of 1891 regulates the Pearl-shell and Bêche-de-Mer Fishery. Every vessel engaged in the fishery within the waters of the Possession must be licensed. The license may be issued by a Resident Magistrate of the Possession or by the Principal Officer of Customs at Cooktown or at Thursday Island in Queensland. The license fee for a vessel of not more than ten tons is 1*l.*; for vessels exceeding 10 tons, 2*l.*; for every boat, 10*s.* These licenses expire on the 31st day of December in each year. Provision is made that all licensed vessels shall be marked and numbered; and also to compel the owner or master of a vessel engaged in the fishery to take out the license required for the vessel.

No person engaged in the fishery can use any Crown lands in connexion therewith without first obtaining an occupation license from a Resident Magistrate or officer of Customs. A fee of 5*l.* is payable for every such license. Every person in charge of a vessel engaged in the fishery and every person employed as a diver must hold a license, which can be obtained, wherever a vessel license is procurable, on payment of 1*l.*

If native labourers are engaged for the fishery for periods exceeding one month the engagement must be entered into before a Resident Magistrate or Customs officer; and all such labourers must, on completion of their engagements, be returned to their homes.

Regulations may be passed under the Ordinance fixing the minimum size of bêche-de-mer and of pearl-shell that may be collected, and for giving effect to the objects of the Ordinance.

9. During the year some progress was made in the formation of a code of the simplest laws that can be framed, which should be applicable to natives only. In all 15 Regulations were passed during the year. Of these the first 10 deal with procedure.

Regulation No. I. of 1890 shows that the Regulations apply only to the aboriginals of the Possession and to the natives of any adjacent country that live among them after the manner of natives. Districts for Native Courts are defined by the Administrator, and magistrates for native matters, who may be Europeans or natives, are appointed as such by the Administrator. No civil action or proceedings can lie against a magistrate for native affairs for anything done by him honestly and in good faith when acting, or when he believes himself to be acting, under the Regulations. In ordinary matters the process of a Court or the evidence taken need not be in writing. No act done under the Regulations is invalidated by reason of being performed on a Sunday or holiday.

In Regulation No. II. provision is made for summoning persons before the Court by means of a messenger furnished with a special token, which the messenger must show to the person summoned as evidence of his good faith. It is punishable for any person to have such a token unlawfully in his possession.

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Regulation No. III. regulates the sittings of Courts. There is no limit to the number of magistrates that may sit together. The senior magistrate is chairman, and the opinion of the majority is that of the Court. If persons summoned do not appear they may be arrested and brought before the Court by force; or a case may be decided in the absence of a person summoned, but who does not appear, on hearing the party that does appear.

At the trial of a case a magistrate informs the accused what is the nature of the charge against him. If he admits the charge he may be sentenced, or the Court may hear the case. A defendant may give evidence if he wishes to do so, but he cannot be compelled to do so except in civil cases. Magistrates summon before them persons residing in another district through the intervention of the magistrate of that district; and in a like manner a magistrate may procure that a sentenced person not residing in his district may be imprisoned by the magistrate of the district in which the prisoner resides. The Administrator may, where such a course is deemed necessary, authorise the arrest of persons in the first instance instead of summoning them. Persons that fail to appear before a Court when summoned to do so; that interrupt or interfere with a Court or obstruct any of its officers; or that disobey a lawful order issued by a magistrate, are on conviction deemed guilty of a forbidden act.

Regulation No. IV. deals with evidence. Witnesses are affirmed, after which they may be punished for giving false evidence. Magistrates are directed to obtain eye-witnesses whenever possible, and not to trust to hearsay evidence.

Magistrates can use voluntary confessions and admissions against an accused, but must first be satisfied that it was spontaneously made. All evidence against a person must be taken in his presence, unless he has failed to appear before the Court on being duly summoned there.

Under Regulation No. V. cases may be heard in English, or in any native language or dialect; but any words to be used against a person must be spoken in his presence and in a language he understands, unless he has failed to appear in Court.

Regulation No. VI. treats of imprisonment. If a European magistrate presides in a court, he determines when and in what manner a sentence of imprisonment shall be carried out, and whether a woman sentenced by the Court to undergo imprisonment shall actually be put in a prison. Any such order made by a non-European magistrate may be varied by a European magistrate. Prisoners may be employed on any public works, but are not to be made to work on Sundays nor for more than eight hours a day. A female cannot be imprisoned in any house not her own except on the order of a European magistrate, nor be made to work for more than four hours a day. By the order of a European magistrate a female may be imprisoned in a gaol or house, or be confined within certain limits. Prisoners not confined in their

own houses are provided with food. Escaping or attempting to escape from prison, aiding to escape from prison, and supplying any prisoner with anything not permitted by a magistrate, are made punishable.

Regulation No. VII. deals with forbidden acts and their punishment. Natives over 14 years of age guilty of a forbidden act may be sentenced to imprisonment not exceeding seven days if a European magistrate forms part of the Court; but to not more than three days if no European magistrate is present. Children under 14 years of age may be whipped by direction of the Court. A magistrate may, if no complainant comes forward, summon and try any person for a forbidden act. A person cannot be sentenced for a forbidden act committed more than six months before the date of the trial; nor can he be tried outside of the district in which the forbidden act was committed. All imprisonment is with hard labour unless the contrary has been expressly stated.

Under Regulation No. VIII. magistrates for native matters may make inquiry into alleged cases of murder, rape, assault, arson, and conspiracy to kill or seriously injure any person. The magistrate may summon before him any person that has any knowledge of the case. If the magistrate concludes that there are grounds for believing that the accused is guilty, and that the offence is more serious than a forbidden act that can be tried under the Native Regulations, he has to see that the accused is handed over to a Resident Magistrate.

Regulation No. IX. gives a jurisdiction to European magistrates for native affairs in civil matters. Magistrates who are natives cannot act in civil cases. These causes may embrace claims to property; rights to land, water, or reefs; rights to produce; claims for the recovery of money or property, and claims for compensation for injury to property.

Regulation No. X. requires magistrates that can write to forward reports to the Government Secretary.

Regulation No. XI. makes stealing a forbidden act. The punishment is imprisonment, which does not exceed seven days if the case is heard by a European magistrate, nor three days if heard by a non-European magistrate. No. XII. provides the same punishment for assaults and injuries when they are not of a serious character; and No. XIII. has the same penalty against burying the dead in villages for which a burying ground has been selected.

Regulation No. I. of 1891 amends No. XII. of 1890, and directs the magistrate to send a person accused of a serious assault to be tried by the Chief Judge. No. II. of 1891 provides a punishment of imprisonment for the spreading of lying reports and the use of threatening language; and No. III. forbids destroying cocoanut trees under a penalty of imprisonment.

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Administration of Justice.

10. No change was made during the year as regards the Central Court or Courts of Petty Sessions mentioned in para. 15 of last year's Report. Native Magistrates' Courts were established for dealing with cases under the Native Regulations in the several magisterial districts, and all the Resident Magistrates, the Government Agents in the Mekeo and Rigo Districts, and two Native Chiefs were appointed magistrates for native matters.

11. The following table of cases dealt with by the ordinary Courts has been prepared by the Hon. F. P. Winter, Chief Judicial Officer:—

MATTERS DEALT WITH JUDICIALLY FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30TH JUNE 1891.

CENTRAL COURT.

Criminal Business.

Number of Persons committed for Trial.	District from which committed.	Persons committed—how disposed of.
14	Central District - -	3 committals quashed.
		11 tried.
13	Eastern District - -	12 tried.
		1 awaiting trial.
—	Western District - -	None.

The Court held Thirteen Criminal Sessions at the Places and Times, and with the Results, under-mentioned:—

No. of Persons tried.	Offence charged.	Result of Trial.	Sentence.
	SAMARAI—1st July 1890.		
1	(1) Murder, (2) Wounding with intent, &c.	Guilty wounding with intent to murder.	1 ten years' penal servitude.
	PORT MORESBY—25th August 1890.		
2	Murder - - -	2 guilty - - -	2 death.

No. of Persons tried.	Offence charged.	Result of Trial.	Sentence.
	PORT MORESBY—11th September 1890.		
8	Murder	6 guilty, 2 acquitted	6 death.
	PORT MORESBY—3rd December 1890.		
1	Murder	1 guilty	1 death.
	MUGULA (DUFAURE ISLAND)—5th January 1891.		
1	Murder	1 guilty	1 death.
	KARAIWA—15th January 1891.		
1	Murder	1 guilty manslaughter	1 two months' imprisonment with hard labour.
	TAGULA (SUDEST ISLAND)—19th January 1891.		
2	(1) Murder, (2) Wounding with intent to murder.	1 guilty murder, 1 guilty wounding with intent to murder.	1 death, 1 ten years' penal servitude.
	MURUA (WOODLARK ISLAND)—23rd January, 1891.		
3	(1) Murder, (2) Wounding with intent to do grievous bodily harm.	1 guilty murder, 1 guilty wounding with intent, &c., 1 acquitted.	1 death, 1 twelve months' imprisonment with hard labour.
	MILNE BAY—26th January 1891.		
1	Murder	1 guilty	1 death.
	SAMARAI—7th February 1891.		
1	Gaol breaking	1 guilty	1 one month's imprisonment with hard labour.
	ELLENGOWAN BAY—10th June 1891.		
1	Murder	1 guilty	1 death.
	TAUPUTU—15th June 1891.		
1	Murder	1 guilty	1 death.
	SAMARAI—25th June 1891.		
1	Unlawfully wounding	1 guilty	1 six months' imprisonment with hard labour.
—			
Total - 24			

Civil Business.

Number of Proceedings.	Nature of Proceedings.	Amount involved.	Result.
		£ s. d.	
14	Applications for administration.	—	Granted.
3	Miscellaneous applications	—	Dealt with.
—			
Total 17			

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COURTS OF PETTY SESSIONS.

Indictable Offences Jurisdiction.

District of Court.	Number of Persons charged.	Nature of Charge.	Result of Inquiry
Central district -	18	Murder - -	14 committed for trial.
			1 dealt with under 'Native Children Custody Ordinance."
			3 discharged.
Eastern district -	13	12 murder - -	12 committed for trial.
		1 gaol breaking -	1 discharged.
		1 unlawfully wounding.	1 awaiting trial.
Western district -	0		
	—		
	Total 31		

Summary Offences Jurisdiction.

District of Court.	Number of Persons charged.	Nature of Charge.	Result of Trial.
Central district -	9	Assault - - - -	6 convicted, 3 dismissed.
	1	Supplying liquor to native -	1 convicted.
	7	Larceny - - - -	5 convicted, dismissed.
	1	Desertion from ship - -	1 convicted.
	1	Vagrancy - - -	1 dismissed.
	1	Loitering about prison -	1 convicted.
	2	Injuring property - -	2 convicted.
	4	Using threatening language -	2 convicted, 2 dismissed.
Eastern district -	1	Larceny - - - -	Convicted.
	1	Receiving stolen goods -	Convicted.
	1	Wilful destruction of property	Convicted.
Western District -	0		
	—		
	Total 29		

Civil Jurisdiction.

District of Court.	Number of Actions tried.	Amount involved.	Result of Action.
		£ s. d.	
Central district -	1 wages - -	10 0 0	Verdict for defendant.
	1 goods sold - -	28 10 5	Verdict for plaintiff.
	1 goods sold - -	8 10 0	Verdict for plaintiff for 1*l.* 5*s.*
Eastern district -	1 breach of contract	25 0 0	Verdict for plaintiff.
Western district -	0		
Total - -	4		

TOTAL NUMBER OF CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS.

In Central Court - - - - - - - -	27
In Lower Courts (exclusive of the 27 that went up to Central Court) - - - - - - - -	33
In all Courts - - - - - - - -	60

TOTAL NUMBER OF CIVIL PROCEEDINGS.

In Central Court - - - - - - - -	17
In lower Courts - - - - - - - -	4
In all Courts - - - - - - - -	21

12. From these figures it will be seen that 15 persons were sentenced to undergo capital punishment. The sentence was carried out on five of the prisoners. Six were sentenced to death for the murder of a European. He was retaining a native woman in his house apparently against her will and inclination, and on this ground was concocted a conspiracy to murder him. The perpetrators were tried at Port Moresby. One of the convicts was executed at Port Moresby, and a second in the district where the murder was committed. The two executed were the principals; the sentences of the others were commuted. A native of Tagula (Sudest) was executed at Conde Point for the murder of a European, a digger who was working alone at the south-east end of the island. This man was murdered because he did not give for some native food as much tobacco as the owner wished to receive.

A native of Murua (Woodlark Island) was executed there for the murder of a European trader. The moving cause seems to have been plunder.

A native of the west end of Orangerie Bay was executed in that district for the murder of a European collector. In this case also the murder was committed that they might obtain for themselves the baggage and goods of the European.

It was considered that in all these cases it was absolutely necessary that the law should be allowed to take its course.

In most cases of native murder it has to be considered that the crime is committed in accordance with native customs and ideas. But this consideration does not apply to the murder of Europeans

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by natives. In three of the four cases of the murder of Europeans mentioned above the natives implicated had no provocation; nothing had been done by the victims which could, according even to native ethics, give any excuse for shedding blood. In the fourth case, in which provocation had been given, the sentence of the person that had suffered injustice was commuted to penal servitude for a term of years. The scenes of these murders and executions were so far apart from each other that each place spoke a separate language of its own, and none of the people of any one of them had any knowledge of the existence of those in any of the others. It was felt that severe measures in these cases would be the most merciful way of dealing with such matters; that only such a course would teach the natives the sacred character and value of human life, and prevent the commencement of racial reprisals. There is every reason to believe that a profound effect was produced in each case among the different tribes of the locality, and that, in a large degree owing to the impressive and patient way in which the trials were conducted, the natives were brought to regard the executions rather in the light of acts of justice than as revenge.

In the other cases in which a sentence of capital punishment was pronounced the murderers and victims were all natives, and in each case something was found in native custom which enabled the prerogative of mercy to be exercised in favour of the convict. Two natives were sentenced to undergo capital punishment for killing a woman of a neighbouring tribe to revenge the murder of a near relative by a member of that tribe. One man was convicted of having taken a little boy to the sea and of holding his head under water until he was dead, because he found the boy stealing in his house. Another man was found guilty of having killed his mother because he thought she was making him ill by witchcraft. Two were convicted of murder committed in continuing old intertribal warfare.

It will be noticed that a sentence of six months' imprisonment was recorded for unlawfully wounding. In this case a European of foreign nationality fired upon a native and inflicted considerable injury on him, because he said the native was addressing bad language to him. Only one case for supplying intoxicating liquor to natives came before the Court, and in that instance a conviction was obtained.

13. It was not until near the end of 1890 that the first of the Native Regulations were brought into force. All the magistrates for native matters were carefully instructed beforehand that these Regulations were to be put into operation gradually. Only some four or five cases were actually dealt with in each district during the few months of the year they were in operation. Light sentences were generally imposed, and in all cases as many natives as possible were had in attendance when a case was being heard. When the first case tried by the magistrate for the Mekeo District was being heard by the Court nearly 2,000 natives were present, and a great many of them remained at the station until the

termination of the 24 hours of imprisonment imposed on the prisoner. It was not so great a novelty in the Rigo District, as some of the natives of that district had already become acquainted with the prison at Port Moresby. The punishment of imprisonment was new to the natives of the Louisiades and of the Western Division, and for that reason imprisonment in the first cases was limited to a few hours in irons. In no case was any attempt made to liberate the prisoners. The Regulations have thus been quietly and gently introduced in all the districts except in that of the Resident Magistrate of Samarai. They were not acted on in that district in any case. It would, of course, be absurd to suppose that there were not many cases in which they could have been applied there; the Resident Magistrate has not been able to administer the Regulations and attend to other duties.

In the vicinity of Samarai, however, the natives are quite familiar with our imprisonment procedures, and no difficulty need be apprehended in working the Native Regulations there.

The magistrates for native matters have dealt with many cases of dispute among natives, and have generally settled them out of court. Their presence has been as useful in that direction as in repressing the specific offences made punishable under the Regulations.

Administrative Visits of Inspection.

14. A full account of several of the more important tours of inspection will be found in the Appendices.*

15. The Government Station at Samarai was visited in the end of June, 1890. At that time the settlement was, on the whole, retrograding. The Government buildings were found in good order except the gaol. The prisoners, nine in number, were in good physical condition, and the premises were kept clean. The London Missionary Society's Station in Tauwara (Milne) Bay was visited and the school examined. On the 2nd of July a large festival was witnessed at Mita in Tauwara Bay, at which a number of the leading men in the district were seen, and Jakoba, of Mita, pledged himself to build a suitable church. This he has done. On the 4th of July a call was made at Wari, and everything found to be in a satisfactory condition there. There was a large school attendance, and the principal man of the island was found to remain a firm supporter of the Government.

The islands of Bagavirana (Conflict Group) were visited on the way to Misima, and it was decided to advertise them as Crown lands available for lease or sale. It was found that the diggers and the natives were living in concord on Misima, but that the latter had given considerable provocation by pilfering from the camps of the diggers, and it was seen that it would be necessary to strengthen the hands of the Resident Magistrate. His quarters

* Not printed.

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had been shifted to Bogoya on the south side of the island where there is a small harbour At Tagula all was found quiet and peaceful, and neither diggers nor natives had any complaints to prefer against each other. There were about two score of diggers there, and about the same number on Misima. They were making little more than a bare living. The journey was extended as far as Roua (Rossel Island), where a large number of small and friendly tribes were met with and made acquainted with the Government.

In the middle of July a visit was made to Murua (Woodlark Island), and some of the principals in the murder of two European traders were secured without bloodshed, although a conflict was at one time imminent. The principal tribes on the island were visited, and the position of the Government was made clear to them. A hurried examination was made of a small part of the Trobriand Group, and the natives there were so far found to be friendly.

16. On the 17th of July an inspection was made of the small but interesting group of the Nada (Laughlan) Islands. The natives were found to be peaceful and to have made some advance in industrial pursuits, chiefly under the influence of Mr. Tetzlaff, a resident trader.

17. In the latter part of July three or four days were spent among the Awaiama tribes, the people who were severely punished because they had murdered Captain Ancell and sacked his vessel soon after the Declaration of Sovereignty. They were seen to be well disposed, hospitable to strangers, honest in their dealings with white men, and peaceful towards their neighbours, most of whom were visited at the same time. The neighbouring Tauputa tribe had, a few months previously, shown much kindness to some gold prospectors who reached their village in a distressed condition.

The steamer reached Cape Sebiribiri (Vogel) on the 27th July. All the principal tribes in that locality were visited. Some trepang fishermen had worked their way up the coast thus far, and some of the natives were procuring trepang for them. They left on one the impression that they were a quiet but oppressed people, requiring protection against more powerful neighbours. Some trepang fishers were met with as far north as the Sydney Islands, but the fishing was not very productive, and the coast was found to be poor and comparatively unfertile, while the native population is sparse in that locality. Some large tribes were met with in Collingwood Bay, all of which, with one exception, appeared to be peaceably disposed. Much of the country there is low, swampy, and covered by mangrove or by casuarina trees, but there is some good land, and there are large tribes in the north-west corner of the bay. At this time the volcanic nature of Mount Victory was clearly established, great clouds of steam being seen to issue from several places on its summit. At Cape Nelson many fine little harbours were entered, and peaceful relations were established with some powerful tribes there. These and the natives of Collingwood Bay seemed to be quite unacquainted with tobacco

and iron, but the place of the latter was better supplied in Collingwood Bay than is usually the case by very fine stone axes made of jade, which takes and keeps a fine edge, being both hard and tough. It is worthy of remark that jade axes have been met with only amongst some inland tribes in Cloudy Bay and among those in the head of Collingwood Bay. The inference would be that this mineral is from the neighbourhood of Mount Suckling, which lies between the two districts.

It was expected that a river of considerable size would be found in Dyke Acland Bay; but examination of the coast in the whaleboat showed that there are there only a few small creeks. The land near the coast is low, wooded, and wet; and the population, at least on the coast, is not great. Near the middle of Dyke Acland Bay the steamer was anchored, in order that the tribes living between the sea and Hydrographer's Range might be inspected. One of their villages had been visited some time before this by a foreign naturalist, who drove the people out of their village and appropriated and carried off their property, consisting of arms, implements, fishing and hunting gear, and who opened some of their graves in search of anatomical specimens. The property thus carried off was taken back and left by us in the village; but communication could not be established with the inhabitants, who fled to the forest before the steamer entered the bay. The inhabitants of the neighbouring villages were extremely suspicious and kept under arms, but some progress was made in allaying their apprehensions of evil. Several powerful tribes were found in Holincote Bay. Contrary to the general behaviour of natives under such circumstances they not only did not run and hide when they saw us, but were profuse in their invitations to us to land and trade with them. They did not appear disposed to be unfriendly, but unfortunately their language was quite unknown to us. There are no villages within nearly half a score of miles of Mitre Rock, which is the approximate boundary between Kaiser Wilhelms-Land and British New Guinea. The land in that vicinity seems to be very poor; it is hilly, wooded, and rocky.

18. The latter half of November and the first week in December were taken up by a visit to the Mekeo District. This district is very fertile and contains about a score of powerful tribes, amongst whom it was desirable to station an agent of the Government. An expedition, fitted out at the expense of the Royal Geographical Society of Victoria, was taken through this district to examine Kovio (Mount Yule) and its neighbourhood. The party was conducted to Amo Amo (Aku), from which the approach to Kovio seemed short, but it was found impossible to continue that route on account of the swampy nature of the country. A path had to be opened along the low spurs of the Mekeo Range until the Kovio hills were reached. The party were successful in reaching the top of the range, but less was added to our knowledge than might have been expected.

Land was purchased for a Government station near the middle of the Mekeo District, and a house was built for the Government

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Agent, with the approval of at least the nearest tribes. The mission of the Sacred Heart Society was busy at the same time establishing itself in the district.

19. In December it was found necessary to proceed to Kabadi to curb the natives of that tribe. They had enjoyed the advantage of the teaching of the London Missionary Society for several years, but a lawless and irrepressible element had got the upper hand in the community, and they had relapsed into the worst phase of savagery. At least half-a-dozen murders had been committed by them in quite recent times, merely that the assassins should be entitled to wear certain head ornaments which are used to distinguish those that take a human life. They had also threatened to make war on their weaker neighbours and to resist the Government. The chief was taken to Port Moresby in irons, and the arms of the tribe were collected and burned in the square of their principal village. Some arrests were made, but no serious crime could be proved against the prisoners on trial, and they were acquitted. The district was, however, completely subjected to authority.

20. In the end of December the Koiari tribe was visited. They occupy the district inland from Port Moresby. They have probably over a score of little villages, which are politically of no great importance, as they are all small and isolated. Their country is hilly, but its productions are varied. Small areas of land might be found there for European settlement, but it would be difficult to transport produce to the coast. The people were found to be notably strong and healthy.

21. The station at Samarai was inspected in the end of December. It was not considered to be then in a good state as regards cultivation. The health and condition of the prisoners were satisfactory, and the building of the new gaol was being proceeded with. All the villages on Logea were visited. It was found the natives spend too much time at Samarai and neglect their own homes. A similar state of matters was seen at Sariba.

Early in January the steamer proceeded to the north side of Mugula (Dufaure Island), and a native of the west end of Orangerie Bay was tried in the presence of a large number of his countrymen for the murder of a European. All the villages of Mugula were visited, and all the principal men of the island were present at the trial, which ended in the conviction of the prisoner. Friendly relations were established with the Suabina tribe in the east end of Orangerie Bay. The Were-Were tribe on Pouro were also friendly, but an attempt to capture certain men of the neighbouring Silasila tribe for killing and eating a native from Orangerie Bay failed at that time, as the natives were successful in making their escape to the mountains. All that part of the country was found to be densely populated, and the rest of the tribes were quiet and friendly.

22. In January the Louisiade Islands were visited. On the 19th a sitting of the Central Court was held at Tagula (Sudest), at which two natives were tried for the murder of a European

digger. One was sentenced to ten years' penal servitude, the other to undergo capital punishment, which was carried out at the same place a few weeks later. The natives were peaceful. The natives of Misima were less thievish than formerly, and the Native Regulations were being very successfully inaugurated among them by Mr. Campbell. Over two dozen diggers were at work on that island, making bare wages, according to their own account. There was some scarcity of provisions amongst the diggers, as communication with Samarai or Cooktown was somewhat irregular. On the 21st January everything was found quiet at Nada, and a man named Sarras was, with the approval of the natives, appointed representative chief of the little group. On the 23rd three natives were tried before the Central Court at Murua for the murder of a European trader; one was acquitted, another was sentenced to twelve months imprisonment, and the third was sentenced to undergo capital punishment, which was carried out at the same place about two weeks later. The principal villages of the tribes concerned in these murders were visited. The natives fled, and only some of those on the coast were present at the trials. A few days later the principal tribes of Tauwara (Milne Bay) were visited, and at a sitting of the Central Court a native was found guilty of matricide. The natives were perfectly peaceful, none carried arms, and many of them were busy preparing copra for traders.

23. On the 9th February another attempt was made to deal with the Silasila tribe. An interview was had with their principal men, and they promised to surrender the actual murderers, but this they did not do.

24. In the beginning of March an administrative inspection of the Western Division was begun from Mabudauan Station. Fairly good houses had been built by Mr. Cameron, and a few acres of land were cleared and planted. A visit was paid to the friendly neighbouring Dabu tribe, and their chiefs afterwards accompanied us to the extremely savage Toga tribe, whose headquarters the Resident Magistrate had hitherto been unable to discover. They were found to be very wild, suspicious, and dangerous, but a friendly footing was established with them. Our boats went along the coast in search of the Tugeri marauders from Dutch New Guinea, but although the search was extended as far as the west end of Heath Bay they were not met with.

25. On the 12th March the villages of Mowatta and Kadawa were inspected. Considerable progress had been made there in house-building, fishing, and in repressing crime and disorder; and it was decided to establish there and in the neighbouring tribe of Turituri a commencement of a village police, and to appoint a native magistracy.

The inland tribe of Masingara was found to be very friendly and on good terms with the neighbouring coast tribes. They are a strong tribe and have evidently occupied their present lands for many generations, but have been practically cut off from the sea by intruding tribes. It is an established custom among them to chew and drink the *Piper methysticum*. Next day a strong force,

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which was followed by several hundred natives, proceeded to the country of the Badu tribe, which had a few weeks previously made an attack on the Resident Magistrate and compelled his party to retire. They abandoned their houses and avoided communication with us, being afraid to renew hostilities. This visit had, however, the effect of destroying their prestige. All the coast tribes between Mabudauan and the Fly River were visited, and all were found quiet and peaceful. The owner of Yaru Island voluntarily gave up to the Government one-half of the frontage to the harbour; this has been cut up into suitable sections for those that wish to settle there for the bêche-de-mer and pearl-shell fisheries. There had been some disturbance between some of the tribes on Kiwai Island, but they were all at peace then, and it was found subsequently that the reports of intertribal hostility had been greatly exaggerated.

About the end of March the examination of the left bank of the Fly River was taken up where it had been left off the previous year. The principal chiefs of Kiwai Island were of the party. The first halt was made with the Gauoburarubi tribe, who, though at first shy and timid, entered on peaceful relations. Their country is very low and flat, and they seem to suffer much from elephantiasis. They were on friendly terms with their neighbours on each side, and will probably now become frequent visitors at Kiwai.

The Dibiri tribe live next to them on the seaward side. They were poor but friendly. Both tribes live chiefly on sago, for the growth of which their lands are well suited. They have had no intercourse with Europeans but would be glad to trade with them for anything they have.

The end of the left bank of the Fly was rounded, and friendly relations established with the large tribe of Maipana who have their permanent settlements there. They speak a language closely related to that of Kiwai, and will be got to enter readily into trading relations with the tribes there. Several large villages were found on the Great Bamu River, which opens by three mouths into the western bight of the Gulf of Papua, but the natives were all terrified and would not come near us. It does not appear that they have had any intercourse with Europeans since they attacked Captain Blackwood, some 45 years ago, and the recollection of the punishment they then received is still fresh.

The mouths of the Bamu seem to have a depth of about a couple of fathoms, and there is a waterway of about the same depth between it and the Fly, which will be of great use to the traveller or trader. At nearly 30 miles from the sea a community occupying houses extending for nearly a mile along the river bank was met with. They were inclined at first to be unfriendly. They explained afterwards that this was because they had heard from the tribes below that if ever white men went near them it would be to shoot them. At 50 or 60 miles from the sea reside another tribe, on a branch of the Bamu called Aworra, and with them also friendly relations were, after some trouble, satis-

factorily established. These tribes live on sago and do not seem to plant anything. The country is flat, covered by dense forest, but whether high enough to be safe from flooding could not be determined. The soil is deep and rich.

26. In the end of May an inspection of the coast tribes was taken up at the east end of Cloudy Bay, and was extended, with a few breaks, as far as Samarai. All the branches of the Robinson River of the charts were followed up until they ended in small creeks. It was made clear that there is no river of any importance whatever in that part of the country. Search was made, but unsuccessfully, for a much dreaded inland tribe, but their village could not be discovered. A trader had prepared a permanent establishment for himself at the east point of the bay, and he intends to form a cocoanut plantation there. The tribes in that neighbourhood are beginning to look to the Government for protection, and are disposed to give more of their time to industrial pursuits. In the beginning of June the steamer was anchored near Ainioro, one of the so-called Amazon Islands, and many of the neighbouring tribes were visited from that point. They were all friendly and showed no hostile disposition, but several of those who live on the top of high and steep hills and cliffs were frightened and surprised by a visit to them by Europeans. Some of them were collecting trepang for the trader. Their country from Ainioro to the west end of Orangerie Bay is hilly, composed of limestone, and with light but fruitful soil, provided that it has plenty of rain. The fine harbours along that part of the coast were all examined, and the different tribes made to understand something of the position of the Government. They would be very willing to trade, but the fishery is miserably poor, and their country does not appear to produce at present anything that could be exported. Another visit was made to the Silasila tribe and their neighbours, and the murderer of the Orangerie Bay native was secured and convicted of the crime before the Central Court sitting in Silasila Bay.

27. The station at Samarai was again examined, and was found to be in a satisfactory condition. A neat little house had been built for each of the Papuan boatmen. They are desirous of remaining permanently in the service, and perform their duties remarkably well. The new gaol was complete, and was seen to be in every way suitable. On the 12th of June the steamer called in at Awaiama. This tribe was found to be quiet and industrious, and the chief came on to Tauputa, the next tribe on the north-east coast. There a sitting of the Central Court was held to try a native of the next tribe, the Agonai, for the murder of a native of the Wamira tribe, which lives north of Girumia. The Agonai had deserted their villages, and as no audience could be obtained there for the trial it was held at Tauputa, where it was witnessed by many natives. Some friendly intercourse was, however, had with the Agonai, and a visit was made to the tribes on Baunia (Bartle) Bay, who were found to be very peaceable people.

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Thence the steamer proceeded to Korowea Bay, on Duau Island, at which place a Chinese trader had been murdered a few months previously. Friendly relations were established with some of the tribes, but the murderer escaped to the great mountain Soromonai, where he eluded pursuit for two or three weeks. The head of the victim was delivered up by the tribe in whose possession it was. Nearly all the tribes from Duchess Island to Dobu were made acquainted with the Government. All were friendly, but at first very timid and shy. The steamer reached Dobu on the 19th June, just in time to tow to an anchorage the vessel by which the founders of the Wesleyan Mission were arriving. All the tribes in the neighbourhood of Dobu were visited and instructed as to the arrival and the functions of the Mission.

28. In the end of June Pannaet and the neighbouring Louisiade Islands were inspected for the first time. At Pannaet nearly all the canoes used in the Louisiades are built, the natives there being industrious and intelligent. They had, however, a bad reputation among their neighbours. Some firearms were recovered from the natives of that group of islands, and several intertribal difficulties were settled. The auriferous reefs on the west end of Tagula (Sudest) were visited. The stone seen was considered sufficiently rich to be worked profitably, but the quantity obtainable may or may not be large. Several firearms—given by traders or diggers to natives as wages, or for gold washed out by the natives —were recovered. Relations between the natives and diggers were amicable. A visit was made to Conde Point, the place at which the native murderer of Bakem was executed. The natives were shy at first, but recognised the justice of the punishment that had been inflicted. All or nearly all the tribes on the south side of the islands were visited. The population is sparse; the villages few and small.

The route was continued to Kimuta, the natives of which were preparing copra and collecting trepang for the trader. At Bogoya, on Misima, it was found that the magistrate's quarters had been entered by some natives of Pannaet or Pannapompom and all the tobacco left there had been stolen. The thieves were arrested a few days later at Pannapompom. The Misima diggers complained that the natives who had ceased to steal before Mr. Campbell had left were again beginning to pilfer. The tribe complained of was subsequently interviewed and scared. They admitted the theft, and promised it would not be repeated. Many natives were regularly at work with the diggers at sluicing in the creeks. They were on the best of terms with each other. The disadvantages arising from the temporary absence of the Resident Magistrate of the district were, however, easily seen.

Government Property and Works.

29. Several purchases of land have been made for the Crown during the year, partly for permanent occupation by officers of

the Government, partly for settlers. Several of these acquisitions were in the neighbourhood of Port Moresby; two were in the Mekeo District. Directions were issued for registering certain waste and vacant lands as Crown lands, including amongst others the Conflict and Torlesse groups of islands. Some land was acquired for the Anglican, Wesleyan, London Missionary Society, and Sacred Heart Missions, but these were in small blocks of a few acres each.

30. There were built at Port Moresby during the year:—A prison containing eight large cells. This building is constructed of squared logs of mangrove wood, has an iron roof with a strong ceiling of timber, and a substantial wooden floor. It has a verandah back and front.

A good and comfortable warder's cottage of wood and iron was built near it, with a suitable kitchen, principally of iron, in which the food of prisoners, warders, &c. can be prepared.

Five houses of native materials, for the accommodation of the men of the armed constabulary. These are fitted with doors, bunks, tables, seats, &c., and are quite sufficient for the purposes for which they were intended.

Similar houses for the Papuan boatman employed there. A large house, of native materials, was also erected for the use of native visitors to the seat of Government.

A large share of the work incurred in building all these houses was done by prison labour.

A well was dug by prison labour some 200 or 300 yards from the prison and constabulary quarters, and piping laid down to carry water thither from a supply that so far seems to be permanent.

A substantial house of wood and iron was built, to be used as quarters for the constabulary officers and for the sittings of the Supreme Court.

Mr. Gleeson with prison labour built a powder magazine at a safe and convenient spot. The building is a strong and suitable one. When the prisoners have not been otherwise employed they have worked at a stone jetty which is being built into deep water near to the Government offices at Ela.

The Port Moresby prisoners have also kept in repair all roads and fences near that place.

At Samarai a very substantial prison was built of materials the same as those used in the Port Moresby prison. It is 51 feet long and 20 feet broad, and is divided into 10 cells, and furnished with a front and back verandah. Like the prison at Port Moresby it should be sufficient for several years to come. Nearly the whole of the island has been planted with cocoanuts, and very comfortable quarters have been built for all the natives employed at this station.

A commencement was made in filling in the swamp which occupies the middle of the island, but no substantial progress can be made in that respect until properly constructed trucks and rails have been provided.

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In the Rigo District a good substantial house of sawn timber and galvanised iron was built for the Government Agent. The prison for this station is not yet completed. Mr. English has grown at the station all the food that was required for his men, and has sent considerable quantities to Port Moresby for the prisoners there. He also made some progress in opening a Government road, and had some rest-houses built for the accommodation of postal messengers.

In the Mekeo District houses of native material were constructed for the Government Agent and his men, and for the constabulary when quartered there. Some three or four acres of land have been cleared and planted, sufficient to grow food for the station. A well has been dug, a boat jetty built, and the whole of the cleared land has been planted in cocoanuts.

At Mabudauan a house of sawn timber and galvanised iron was put up for the Resident Magistrate, and houses of native materials built for the men stationed there and for the accommodation of visitors. A good boat jetty was also constructed, and several acres of land cleared and planted. The soil is, however, but poor. It is being planted in cocoanuts.

31. The most important work undertaken by the Government during the year was the planting of cocoanuts. It was mentioned in last year's Annual Report, paragraph 33, that 1,500 nuts had then been planted. That work has been continued, and there are now over 12,000 planted on Tauko Island alone. Mr. Gleeson, using prison labour, fortunately found fresh water on that island by digging. There is every reason to believe that it is now provided with a permanent water supply.

About 2,000 cocoanuts were planted on the mainland, at what appeared a suitable place, nearly opposite Tauko. In all, the Government has now planted, in round numbers, about 15,000 cocoanuts. It is considered to be very desirable that this be still further extended. If successful these plantations cannot but be an important item of revenue in half a score of years; and they will help to bring about direct shipments to the ports where cocoanuts are used for manufacturing purposes, a change which will be found necessary to the full development of the cocoanut industry in British New Guinea. For that industry one can with certainty predict a great future in the Possession, as it is provided with local cheap labour, and the cocoanut flourishes in the greatest luxuriance, and is never devastated by hurricanes there.

32. No important addition, except three new whaleboats, was made to the Government vessels during the year; but extensive repairs were carried out on the "Juanita," which was converted into a strong and very serviceable lugger, which is of the greatest use at the seat of Government. This vessel is now manned by Papuans when on service.

Establishments.

33. Officers employed in the service of the Possession during the year were as follows:—

Office.	Name.	Date of assuming Office.	Emoluments per Annum.
	Port Moresby.		
Administrator* - -	Sir William MacGregor, M.D., K.C.M.G.	4th September 1888 -	1,500*l.* and 200*l* allowance.
Private Secretary* -	The Hon. M. H. Moreton	7th November 1890 -	300*l.*
Chief Judicial Officer* -	The Hon. F. P. Winter -	25th October 1888 -	1,000*l.*
Government Secretary* -	The Hon. A. Musgrave -	4th September 1888	500*l.* and 200*l.* allowance
Treasurer† - -	The Hon. T. H. Hatton-Richards.	1st October 1890 -	350*l.*
Commandant Armed Constabulary.	George Wriford - -	1st October 1890 -	300*l.*
Government Printer -	John George Allen -	4th September 1888	300*l.*
Government Storekeeper.	A. W. Butterworth -	9th October 1890 -	200*l.*
Gaoler and Overseer -	Dennis Gleeson - -	4th September 1888	250*l.*
	Samarai.		
Sub-Collector of Customs	David Ballantine - -	25th July 1889 -	225*l.*
	Magisterial.		
Resident Magistrate, Eastern Division.	The Hon. B. A. Hely -	21st October 1888 -	500*l.*
Resident Magistrate, Louisiades.	W. T. Campbell‡ - -	7th November 1890	300*l.*
Resident Magistrate, Central Division.†	The Hon. F. E. P. Lawes	28th October 1890 -	350*l.*
Resident Magistrate, Western Division.	J. B. Cameron - -	11th September 1889	500*l.*
	Government Agents.		
Rigo District - -	A. C. English - -	28th June 1890 -	250*l.*
Mekeo District† - -	C. Kowald - - -	9th October 1890 -	200*l.*
	Government Vessels.		
Master s.s. "Merrie England."	James M. Hennessy -	6th August 1889 -	300*l.*
Chief Engineer, ditto -	Henry Phillips - -	8th August 1889 -	240*l.*
Master, schooner "Hygeia."	Colin Thomson - -	4th September 1888	240*l.*

* The above are provided for by the sums reserved to Her Majesty by the Letters Patent.
† New appointments.
‡ Resigned through ill-health, 26th June; duties now discharged by Mr. Neville Chester.

34. Many officers suffered from attacks of fever, more or less severe, but there was no really serious case. On the whole the amount of sickness was less than might have been expected.

Contrary to what might have been looked for, the officers longest in the country seemed to suffer at least as much from fever as the more recent arrivals.

35. In the early part of the year the strength of the service was raised to about the full force that can be kept up on the available 15,000*l.* a year. That is far short of what would be required to bring the whole of the Possession under the control of the Government within a brief period. This will be readily seen if it is borne in mind that the total area of the Colony is in round numbers about 90,000 square miles, with a coast line of 1,320 miles on the mainland, and about 1,070 miles on the islands.

36. Considerable progress was made in organising an armed constabulary force. By the kind co-operation of Sir John B. Thurston, Governor of Fiji, 14 men—12 Solomon islanders and two Fijians—were recruited in that Colony after careful selection by Dr. Corney, chief medical officer of Fiji. Captain Castle, of H.M.S. "Rapid," was good enough to bring the men direct from Fiji to Samarai, a very great advantage to the Possession as regards cost, but still greater as concerning the health of the men. Eight Papuans were gradually added to the force by voluntary enlistment, and they promise to become very active and serviceable constables. It was not an easy matter to procure recruits at first. The native is, in the very great majority of cases, married before he is of age to serve as a constable, and very few husbands or fathers are willing to leave their wives and children to become constables. It is found, however, that as the force gains prestige and importance in the eyes of the people it becomes easier to find recruits. No native of the Central District, which includes Port Moresby, has joined. The health of the men has on the whole been good, although they have been much exposed, but there have been many mild cases of fever amongst them. They sustained no casualties in the execution of their duty.

37. All the boats' crews employed at Port Moresby were Papuans, and so were the station police in charge of the Government Agents at Mekeo and Rigo. Half the number of men posted with the magistrate in the Western Division were Polynesians and the other half Papuans, and a similar arrangement was adopted for the establishment in the Louisiades. All the men employed at Samarai were natives of the country except the gaol warder, who is a Polynesian. Very considerable progress has been made by these native labourers during the last year or two.

38. In addition to the natives in the regular employment of the Government the services of men have sometimes been obtained as special constables, receiving some small remuneration for the time they are employed. This plan is well worth extension, as it tends better than almost anything else to establish among the people themselves a fairly sound idea as to the duty of the Government in repressing crime and maintaining order. Numbers of natives were so employed in all the districts, and on several occasions they showed a decided aptitude for police work. They appeared to be

quite trustworthy; but of course great caution has to be observed at first in such matters.

39. Mr. Hatton Richards and Mr. Lawes were appointed permanent members of the Legislative Council, Mr. A. C. English and Mr. C. Kowald were added to the Native Regulation Board. The Government Secretary having been relieved of the duties of Treasurer by the appointment of Mr. Richards, was appointed local auditor, which makes it possible to have a complete audit of receipt accounts on the spot, and supplies a pre-audit for payments.

TRADE.

40. Detailed statistics will be found in the Appendix* on Imports, Exports, Navigation, and Postal matters.

Imports.

The total value of imports entered at Port Moresby and Samarai respectively has been:—

Year.	Samarai.	Port Moresby.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1888–89 - -	6,016 13 2	5,091 19 0	11,108 12 2
1889–90 - -	6,798 13 0	9,305 10 0	16,104 3 0
1890–91 - -	7,455 7 6	8,075 2 1	15,530 9 7

The principal items were:—

——	1888–89.	1889–90.	1890–91.
	£	£	£
Food stuffs - - -	5,400	7,124	4,463
Drapery - - - -	1,185	1,392	1,457
Tobacco and cigars - -	996	1,290	2,354
Hardware (including grindery) -	927	1,123	1,535
Beverages - - - -	805	1,143	688
Clothes - - - -	550	190	255
Building materials - - -	246	1,086	1,224
Other articles - - -	999	2,756	3,554
Total - - -	11,108	16,104	15,530

* Not printed.

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Exports.

The total value of exports has been :—

Year.	Samarai.	Port Moresby.	Total.
	£	£	£
1888–89 - -	5,071	871	5,943
1889–90 - -	5,458	997	6,455
1890–91 - -	7,678	755	8,134

In the above the gold obtained by the diggers at work in the Possession is not included except to the value of 603*l*. It was shipped direct from the goldfields to Australia, as vessels were allowed to visit them after clearing outward at Samarai. Mr. Burkitt has again kindly furnished me with information as to the gold entered at the Custom House at Cooktown from British New Guinea. There is no record of that which may have been sent away through other channels.

Gold entered at the Custom-House, Cooktown, from British New Guinea :—

——	1888–89.	1889–90.	1890–91.
Ounces - -	3,850	3,470	2,426
Value - -	£14,387	£12,440	£8,371

During the first of these three years there were at one time from 700 to 800 men on the fields. Last year the number would average about four score. They are now principally men that are acclimatised and who possess such knowledge of the natives and of the country as often gives them great advantage over any new comers. The latter are not likely to do much. The fields are fully occupied. Next to gold the most important export is bêche-de-mer. The produce of this fishery for the last three years has been :—

——	1888–89.	1889–90.	1890–91.
Tons - -	38½	70¼	64¼
Value - -	£2,178	£4,682	£5,030

This industry has been pushed up the north-east coast, and there is now probably little or no new fishing ground to be discovered.

The pearl-shell fishery continues to decline in importance, not from want of shell of good quality, but because it lies in water too deep to be worked by any ordinary diving apparatus. The shell collected in the waters of the Possession by boats from Queensland ports is not included in these tables.

The value of the pearl-shell entered at the Custom House for export has been :—

	£
1888–89 - - - -	1,510
1889–90 - - - -	1,050
1890–91 - - - -	85

Copra is a much more promising export. Of it there has been entered outwards :—

1888–89	- -	76 tons, valued at	550*l.*
1889–90	- -	43 „ „	250*l.*
1890–91	- -	198 „ „	1,433*l.*

Shipping.

41. No foreign shipping was entered or cleared. In the comparative table below ships of war and vessels belonging to the Government of the Possession are not included :—

——	1888–89.	1889–90.	1890–91.
Seagoing vessels -	Entered, 47; tonnage, 4,108.	Entered, 45; tonnage, 3,727.	Entered, 37; tonnage, 2,950.
	Cleared, 38; tonnage, 3,284.	Cleared, 45; tonnage, 3,520.	Cleared, 30; tonnage, 2,537.
Vessels coastwise -	Entered, 151; tonnage, 3,374.	Entered, 47; tonnage, 2,170.	Entered, 27; tonnage, 1,647.
	Cleared, 150; tonnage, 3,668.	Cleared, 51; tonnage, 2,767.	Cleared, 31; tonnage, 1,828.

Everything possible is done to facilitate the movements of shipping; for example, Customs dues are collected at Thursday Island on goods for Roro (Yule Island), so that a vessel can discharge cargo there on the way to Port Moresby; and vessels are cleared outwards at Samarai for Cooktown by way of the Louisiades, &c.

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Postal.

42. In the absence of a subsidised mail service the receipt and despatch of mails has been irregular. The mail matter dealt with is contrasted below with that of previous years :—

Article.	1888–89.	1889–90.	1890–91.
Letters received - - -	2,366	3,166	2,664
Letters despatched - -	2,587	2,586	2,191
Packets received - -	93	111	142
Packets despatched - -	98	84	88
Newspapers received - -	4,071	6,844	6,042
Newspapers despatched - -	574	590	468

The Possession has in postal matters been treated as a postal district of Queensland, using Queensland stamps, and receiving and forwarding practically all mails through that Colony. In this way the Possession does not require to enter into any separate arrangement on its own account with regard to foreign mails.

Mission Work.

43. This has been in a transition stage during the year, and measures have been in preparation for greatly extended work by the London Missionary Society, the Society of the Sacred Heart, the Anglican Mission, and the Wesleyan Mission.

The Rev. James Chalmers recruited a number of new teachers in the Pacific Islands. His colleague, the Rev. W. G. Lawes, has been seeing his translation of the New Testament into Motu put through the press in England.

The schools of this Mission at Port Moresby were inspected and afforded an excellent example of the invaluable work performed by this mission in educating the natives. Some of their scholars have already been doing occasional clerical work for the Government, and in probably a short time some of them will be capable of being regularly employed as copying clerks.

Solid improvements have been carried on at Kwato by the Rev. F. W. Walker, and the Rev. W. Pearse has continued his steady labours in his excellent training school at Kerepunu.

Bishop Verjus has been actively pushing forward mission work in the Mekeo District and its vicinity. He opened schools at four or five different places on the mainland. This mission has suffered a great loss in being temporarily deprived, by severe illness, of the valuable services of Père Tousblanc, the result of whose labours at Mou was seen in a good school and in the

greatly improved behaviour of the people. Some of the Sisters established themselves permanently in the Mekeo District, and have, it is to be feared, had to put up with not a little hardship. There were several serious cases of illness among the members of this mission, but on the whole not so much as in previous years. Their district does not seem to be a very healthy one, and they appear to often exert themselves beyond their strength.

The Wesleyan and Anglican Missions did not begin work within the year.

All mission stations were visited whenever it was possible to do so, especially those in charge of non-European missionaries. It need hardly be said that they all loyally support authority, and teach the natives that they are subjects of the Queen, and owe obedience to Her Government in the Possession.

Land.

44. Further experience and more extended knowledge of the country has only confirmed the opinion formerly expressed, that any plan for the systematic settlement of an agricultural population of Europeans in the country is inadmissible. It is highly improbable that people of European descent could ever perform continuous manual labour in the field there, unless it were at a high altitude on the great mountain ranges; and from these produce could not be removed to the coast save at ruinous expense.

The diggers at work in the Louisiades toil hard and steadily, but they are generally shaded by the forest for the greater part of the day, and also in a great many cases are working in water. The conditions are entirely different from those of field labour.

The position of Europeans in the Colony can, speaking generally, only be to supervise field labour performed by coloured men, and to work under shade or cover of some kind.

There is no doubt that areas of good land of a few hundred acres each are procurable at very many places in the Possession, suitable for almost any form of tropical cultivation. This seems to offer a good field to industrious men with small capital. It has been mentioned above (paragraph 5) that such land can be alienated to the *bonâ fide* settler at a minimum price of 2*s.* 6*d.* an acre. There is every reason to believe that men with some knowledge of the cultivation and preparation for the market of tobacco, tea, coffee, vanilla, bananas, fibres, cocoanuts, &c. would find good local labour, and soil and climate suited to any branch they took up. The natives in some of the best agricultural districts show some aptitude for cultivating new products, and they would probably soon imitate systematic cultivation for export.

The agricultural settler who is prepared to turn the land to use is the only land purchaser for whom there is any opening, and unfortunately that class of man it is difficult to obtain, although every possible facility would be offered to him.

45. About four score of claims to land alleged to have been acquired prior to the proclamation of Her Majesty's Protectorate

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over the territory on the 6th November 1884 have been received. The list is probably not yet complete, but it is not unlikely that several of them will be abandoned by the claimants when called upon to guarantee the costs of investigating the claim.

In the majority of these claims the area is not stated. The largest is for 10,890 acres, the others probably do not amount altogether to half that area.

Twenty-three claims for land acquired subsequent to the 6th November 1884 have been lodged. It would appear from the date of some of these that if the land was actually purchased it was in violation of the provisions of Ordinance No. II. of 1888, which makes it a penal offence for any person to purchase land direct from a native.

All these claims are for building sites with perhaps some garden land attached.

Exclusive of applications for land for mission sites, 33 applications for land by lease or purchase have been received. Six of these were for large areas, so extensive that each of them would have covered the lands of several native tribes. None of these could be entertained.

All those required for *bonâ fide* settlement, for planting, or for residential purposes, have either already been granted or will receive favourable consideration.

The services of a small survey staff have recently been obtained, so that claims to and applications for land can now be finally disposed of.

Population.

46. No attempt at any actual enumeration of the native population of the Possession could be made. There are doubtless many hundreds of tribes in the interior that have not yet seen a white man. It is, therefore, impossible to give anything more than a rude guess at the total of the indigenous population. It is, however, certainly much more than the official estimate of 150,000 hitherto given, a figure that would be covered by the east end and islands alone. It can hardly be less than 300,000, and probably 350,000 would be a fair estimate.

It is, of course, quite impossible to say whether it is increasing or diminishing; clearly certain districts are now over-populated, whilst others could support a much larger population.

Violence has hitherto been the principal agent in reducing the numbers of the people or in restraining their increase. That is now daily falling more and more into disuse; and so long as such diseases as dysentery, smallpox, &c. are unknown to the country, there can be but little doubt that the native population will increase, for at present they suffer from no disease that could thin their numbers.

The non-native population of the Possession in April was about 272, made up as follows:—

Nationality.	Males.	Females.	Total.
British - - -	112	3	115
German - - -	4	—	4
Italian - - -	2	—	2
French - - -	12	8	20
Other Europeans - -	13	—	13
American - -	2	—	2
West Indian - -	6	—	6
Chinese - - -	3	—	3
Malays and Javanese -	18	—	18
Polynesian - -	56	33	89
	228	44	272

Prisons.

47. As no report has been received from the Resident Magistrate at Samarai the number of prisoners confined there cannot be stated. It would probably average about half a score. Their health has been good. The services of a chaplain for the Samarai prison were provided by the Rev. F. W. Walker.

On the 30th June 14 males and two females were in prison at Port Moresby; 27 persons were received into prison, and 21 were discharged. The greatest number in gaol at any one time was 21, and the smallest number 14. Under the excellent supervision of Mr. D. Gleeson, good discipline was maintained, at the same time that the prisoners were kindly treated; and the result was that much useful work was performed by the prisoners, that they enjoyed good health, and were much improved morally and physically.

During the first year of the Administration the health of the prisoners was very unsatisfactory; but under a system by which they are kept in the open air all day, and with good prison accommodation, fair diet, and reasonable steady work, their health has become all that could be desired. They have school for about half an hour in the middle of the day, and have divine worship on Sunday under a native chaplain from the London Missionary Society's Training College at Port Moresby.

At first the dread of imprisonment was very great to the native, but now it begins to lose some of its terrors. Some of the

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tribes are now coming to regard imprisonment as a mar of disgrace, and the natives employed in the Government service will sometimes refuse to associate with or take their food with a native prisoner.

Attempts to escape from prison, at first incessant, are now becoming more rare; and it was lately even found possible to detain some natives for a few days' imprisonment without putting them in leg-irons when out at work. But some of those undergoing longer terms of imprisonment asked that their leg-irons should not be removed, because they were sure they would some day run away if they had an opportunity.

FINANCE.

Revenue.

48. The total revenue collected and paid over to the Treasury of Queensland was 2,673*l.* 19*s.* 4*d.* It is contrasted with that of the two preceding years below :—

Items.	1888–89.	1889–90.	1890–91.
	£ *s.* *d.*	*s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*
Customs dues - -	2,419 10 2	2,893 10 4	2,525 13 2
Goldfield receipts -	187 17 0	20 15 0	23 0 0
Shipping fees, &c. -	1 18 0	4 10 0	4 3 0
Fines - - -	25 13 6	41 10 0	46 5 0
Licenses - - -	2 0 0	11 0 0	21 0 0
Miscellaneous - -	42 13 2	44 8 0	53 18 2
Total - -	£2,679 11 10	£3,015 13 4	£2,673 19 4

There is no reason to expect any considerable growth in the revenue until some means are found of increasing the trade products of the country, and until the cocoanut plantations of the Crown come into bearing. An increase or decrease in the numbers of gold diggers in the Possession makes but little difference to the revenue, as their food is nearly all exempt from duty, and they do not spend much on anything else besides the small stock of tobacco they require.

Expenditure.

49. The actual expenditure charged to the 15,000*l.* guaranteed for the necessary expenses of the administration was 15,000*l.*

It is classified below, and is compared with the expenditure of the two preceding years :—

Head of Expenditure.	1888–89.	1889–90.	1890–91.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Civil List salaries -	2,633 19 7	3,300 0 0	3,290 12 8
Other salaries - -	1,796 0 6	2,381 18 6	3,476 10 5
Vessels and boats -	2,747 11 4	2,564 3 0	2,938 16 3
Allowances—house and travelling—for all officers and employés.	1,296 13 11	2,548 3 2	1,500 0 0
Buildings - -	185 1 10	1,144 19 3	979 0 8
Agriculture - -	2 10 0	137 11 9	355 9 2
Mail service - -	445 0 0	—	—
Miscellaneous (including stores).	1,662 14 1	2,898 9 8	2,459 10 10
Totals - -	£10,769 11 3	£14,975 5 4	£15,000 0 0

Exploration Fund.

The amount available under this head was 869*l.* 18*s.* 7*d.* Of this only 152*l.* 10*s.* 5*d.* was expended, leaving a balance at the 30th June last to be carried forward for the same purpose of 717*l.* 8*s.* 2*d.*

50. For the maintenance of the s.s. "Merrie England," 5,000*l.* was provided from Imperial funds and 2,000*l.* by the contributing Colonies. The gross disbursements on account of this vessel amounted to 7,386*l.* 5*s.* 3*d.* But deducting from that the sums received as passage money and for the victualling of officers, 445*l.* 11*s.* 2*d.*, the net expenditure was 6,940*l.* 14*s.* 1*d.*

According to a return prepared by Captain Hennessy the distance run by the steamer was 14,218 miles. The average expenditure on coal was about 2*s.* a mile. The price of coal was about 2*l.* 15*s.* a ton, and the quantity required in steaming 24 hours about seven tons and a half.

51. No change was made in the tariff, which therefore remains the same as for the previous year. (*Vide* pages 293–297 of [C. 5883], August 1889.)

Native Dialects.

52. No opportunity was lost of adding to our knowledge of the different natives tongues. In this laborious task valuable assistance has been given by Mr. F. E. Lawes, who himself prepared the

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Sinaugolo dialect, and gave also some time and trouble to the revision and extension of the Toaripi and Domara-Mairu languages. In the Mairu part of this language, Laka, the L.M.S. teacher at Ainioro, a pupil of the Rev. G. W. Lawes, did a good share. Mr. Cameron did useful work in extending the Dabu language; and Mr. Tetzlaff rendered willing and useful aid in the Nada tongue.

Mr. R. Guise has drawn up the larger portion of the Bula'a dialect, and has carefully revised and corrected it.

53. Perhaps the most interesting of the seven vocabularies attached* is that of the Dabu tongue, on account of its geographical position and the sharp lines of difference between it and the Kiwai-Mowatta language, and the dialect spoken at Saibai, Boigu, &c. These latter dialects are given in last year's Annual Report. Many words in Dabu end in a consonant—g, l, m, n, t, p, r, k; and the "ng" is not uncommon. In this respect it more closely resembles the Saibai than the Kiwai language. It is just possible that the roots of a few Polynesian words may exist in Dabu, as perhaps "papapi," butterfly (but the more common word is nipurigan, so that "papapi" may be introduced); "ngoi," cocoa-nut. But such words as those for "boy," "hand," "cooking-pot," "canoe," "come," "death," "eye," "hand," "louse," "mother," "river," "sago," &c., seem to have no connexion with the words that generally denote those objects over much of the Pacific and of the Possession east of the Gulf of Papua. So different are the coast languages on the west of the Papuan Gulf from those east of it that it seem improbable that the western dialects can have given rise to the eastern, or *vice versâ*. If they had a common origin it must have been very remote.

In the Domara-Mairu dialect words are generally the same for, or are understood at, both places when they are printed only under one. The Nada dialect is interesting as forming the language spoken at the extreme north-east corner of the Possession. It will be seen that Nala and Sinaugola have strong affinities to the central and eastern languages of the Possession as well as to the Polynesian languages. It is somewhat surprising that Motu should differ so widely as it does from Toaripi, seeing that from time immemorial those tribes have traded with each other. In trading operations, however, they seem to use a jargon that is blended from both languages.

It is tolerably clear that the trading and working language of the west end, of the east end, and of the islands, will be English. The most widely known language in the central districts is Motu; but eventually English will there also become prevalent. Motu is easily acquired by other tribes, and it spreads from the Government stations and from some of the mission stations. But a knowledge of the rudiments of the different dialects is of great value in leading the different tribes towards either English or Motu. As a rule the natives are very proud of knowing a few words of English. Nothing could be more comical than to witness

* Not printed.

the important and superior bearing of, say, a native of Sudest conversing with a native of Woodlark Island in a common vocabulary of a score of words of not very pure English. They are often bashful in speaking English to a white man, but they are not so in using English among themselves when they know no common native language.

Scientific Contributions.

54. In the Geological Department Mr. Jack shows that the specimens brought from the upper reaches of the Fly River contained gold, topaz, beryl, and lignites. The latter seem to be of no value.

Unfortunately the fossils have not yet been reported on, as Mr. Etheridge has been unable to examine them without certain works of reference which are not easily obtained, but are now being procured.

Mr. Jack classes the jade of Collingwood Bay with that of New Zealand.

Mapudauan Hill, the only hill on the New Guinea coast between the Dutch boundary and the Gulf of Papua, is shown to consist of granite containing large porphyritic crystals of felspar.

The specimens collected by the Royal Geographical Societys' expedition to Mount Kovio (Yule) seem to show that the ranges there are generally composed of andesite formations.

A visit was made to the Possession during the latter part of the year by Mr. Maitland, of the Queensland Geological Survey. His report, which must be of great interest, will appear in next Annual Report.

55. During the winter of 1890 Mr. Charles Hedley, F.L.S. then on the staff of the Queensland Museum, volunteered for service as a naturalist in the Possession. His collections were, on his return, handed over to the Queensland Museum. The lepidoptera therein contained were described by Mr. Henry Tryon in my last Annual Report. A further report * from Mr. Tryon will be found at page 99. The land shells were confided to Mr. Hedley, an expert in that branch, who examined them and prepared illustrations at his own expense.

A brief note * on the botanical collections will be found from the Baron Sir Ferdinand von Mueller at page 106. There was but little opportunity of adding much to our knowledge of the flora. Probably most of the more common flowering plants of the low lands have already been examined. But much remains to do in examining the trees of the low country, and to complete the highland flora.

In Appendix CC * will be found an interesting account of the examinations made by Mr. C. W. De Vis, of the Queensland Museum, of the fauna submitted to him for that purpose. It is in contemplation to set apart at once a floor in the Queensland

* Not printed.

British New Guinea.

Museum for British New Guinea collections. This is now quite necessary, as they are already varied and extensive.

The land shells confided to Mr. Hedley formed the basis of a lengthy paper published in Vol. vi. (ser. 2) of the Linnean Society of New South Wales, pp. 67–116, plates ix., x., xi., xii., and xii. bis, under the title of "The Land Molluscan Fauna of British New Guinea." An examination of that report will show how thorough is the work that has been done by Mr. Hedley, who devoted to it the labour of several months. Three genera— viz., Helicarion, Succinea, and Diplommatina—are for the first time recorded from the island.

The geographical relations of the fauna are discussed at some length, and an epitome is given of the history of its investigation. All the species obtained by previous travellers are detailed with their range, synonomy, and bibliography. Altogether 110 species are catalogued, of which the following 25 are described as new :—

Oxytes hercules.
„ flyensis.
Microcystina calcarata.
Helicarion visa.
„ musgravei.
Charopa texta.
Cristigibba macgregori.
Helix bevani.
Geotrochus elisus.
„ trobriandensis.
Cochlostyla papuensis.
Partula occidentalis.
Omphalotropis brajier
Omphalotropis protracta.
Bellardiella minor.
Pupinella tapparonei.
Pupina ovalis.
„ gibba.
Diplommatina symmetrica.
Cyclotus horridus.
„ kowaldi.
„ belfordi.
Leptopoma parvum.
Helicina insularum.
„ multicoronata.

All these are figured as well as the following species, of which descriptions alone have been hitherto published :—

Conulus starkei.
„ maino.
Microcystina sappho.
Thalassia annula.
Ochthephila albertisi.
Rhytida globosa.
Geotrochus tapparonei.
„ brumeriensis (animal).
„ oxystoma.
Succinea simplex.
Helicina woodlarkensis.
„ maino.

An account of the anatomy of several of the most important of these forms is in course of publication. In the intervals of official duties Mr. Hedley hopes to finish shortly an account of the new species of marine mollusca he collected on the coasts of New Guinea.

Reports by Officers.

56. Mr. Cameron in his report on his district,* gives a brief account of his operations during the year, and shows how he has established himself in the district.

* Not printed.

The report * of Mr. F. E. Lawes on the Central District shows that he visited a great many places in his jurisdiction, and that decided advances are being made at many points.

Mr. A. C. English gives a satisfactory account * of the progress of order and authority as illustrated by details in the Rigo District. His efforts have met with much success.

At page 83 will be found a short report * from Mr. Campbell on the Louisiade District. That officer was quickly effecting a marked improvement on the more intractable tribes in his district, and his retirement—necessitated from reasons of health—was a distinct loss to the Service.

The Commandant gives an account * of the details of organisation of the armed constabulary, and of the duties performed by the force.

All these reports will be found to be of much interest. No report has been received from the magistrate of the Eastern Division, a matter which is much to be regretted, as the natives of that part of the Possession seem to be very apt in learning the rudiments of civilisation and order.

General.

57. The usual annual journey was made by me to Brisbane on duty in the end of August.

The estimates of expenditure were discussed there, several draft Ordinances were considered, and arrangements were made for the maintenance of the s.s. "Merrie England"; and many other matters of business were transacted. In all these Sir Samuel W. Griffith, Premier of Queensland, gave valuable assistance, both personally in revising draft Ordinances and by suggestions on general matters, as well as in causing the steamer to be refitted under Government supervision, and by rendering the Possession important services through many of the departments of the public service in Brisbane. The thanks of the Government of the Possession are specially due to Mr. A. McDowall, the Surveyor-General of Queensland, who has rendered it much valuable assistance during the year; and to Captain Almond, Portmaster of Brisbane, for supervising the refitting of the steamer.

During my absence from the Possession Mr. Winter acted as Deputy Administrator to my entire satisfaction.

58. In closing this record of the year it must be said that on the whole the results have been fairly satisfactory. At times the progress made in certain districts has been full of promise and encouragement; but not infrequently there have been relapses.

A very large proportion of the coast tribes now understand that a Government has been established. Hundreds of them ask for Government interference when they get into trouble with their neighbours. Over a great part of the coast line the crew of a wrecked canoe or boat would now not only not be murdered but

* Not printed.

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would receive assistance. Many scores of tribes that a couple of years ago kept watch all night lest they should be cut off before morning now sleep soundly, feeling safe in the name of the Government.

At some points they begin to plant cocoanuts for the future, knowing that they will be able to reap the fruits of their labours.

But the time has not yet come, but is coming, when a Native Regulation can be passed requiring each man to plant a certain number of cocoanuts a year.

But the above is only a small beginning to overcome administrative difficulties that are probably unique in the history of the Empire. Never before has any systematic attempt been made to bring into the paths of civilisation and industry a race covering so large an area and so far behind other aboriginal races in civilisation and political organisation. It is quite certain that the Papuan, left to himself, would not for ages to come have worked out on his account the stage in civilisation reached by the Polynesian. New Guinea seems to have been left behind—ignored by all the rest of the settled world. It does not seem to have ever produced a man capable of uniting the inhabitants of two contiguous glens. The tribes have lived apart until they have produced a multitude of different dialects; and difference of language has further accentuated division and enmity, until the Papuan was made the most timid, shy, and suspicious of mankind.

Among the more pronounced of the obstacles in the way of the administration at present is the question of the Tugeri marauders from Dutch New Guinea, a question that requires a speedy solution for the settlement of the west.

Then there are hundreds of inland tribes that here and there come into collision, from behind, with the communities under Government influence. These latter demand protection, and it is no easy matter to give it over so long a line. There are still many places, some even on the coast, at which the natives will wish to try their strength against the Government before they will submit to its orders.

Only slow progress is made in introducing fresh articles for cultivation. What is possible is being done from the different Government centres, but that falls far short of one's wishes. Unfortunately Port Moresby is a waterless, infertile place, unsuitable in every way for the establishment there of an experimental garden.

The absence of men of authority among the tribes is a most serious drawback. To find out the capable man in a tribe, to give him any confidence in himself, and to procure for him any respect or consideration from others, and to teach him that his authority is not to be exerted merely to benefit himself and his immediate relations, are all tasks that require much time and patience. Still that must be done to establish complete authority over the different tribes.

Naturally the Papuan is not quarrelsome; he is very affectionate, he is devoted to his home, and he is an agriculturist; hence they

will take readily to habits of civilisation once they understand it and their confidence is gained. But that requires time and forbearance. The Government is in many districts acquiring their confidence, and is daily obtaining more and more influence. Before the Declaration of Sovereignty the way was more or less prepared for this over some area by the missionaries of the London Missionary Society, principally through Mr. Lawes and Mr. Chalmers. But the authority of the Government has for several reasons to be pushed further and faster than missionary labours.

It is to be ascribed to the zeal of the small handful of officers whose services have been at my disposal that so much has been done as has already been accomplished, under such adverse circumstances, over so great an area, and with such very limited means at disposal.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WM. MACGREGOR,
Administrator.

British New Guinea.

No. 2.

Lord Knutsford to Sir H. W. Norman.

Sir, Downing Street, February 13, 1892.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch of the 7th of December forwarding printed copies of the Annual Report of the Administrator of British New Guinea for the year ended the 30th of June last.

I have perused this report with much interest, and desire to express my appreciation of the progress which has been made under the direction of Sir Wm. MacGregor in enforcing law and order and introducing the rudiments of civilisation into the Possession.

I desire also that you will convey to Sir S. Griffith an expression of my thanks for the assistance which he has rendered to the Administrator in the matters mentioned in paragraph 57 of the Report.

I have, &c.
Knutsford.

LONDON: Printed by EYRE and SPOTTISWOODE,
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No. 26.

ST. HELENA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1890.

(For Report for 1889, *see* No. 118, Old Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

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1892.

[C.—6563.–10.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following among other Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

No.	Colony.	Year.
99	Gambia	1889
100	Straits Settlements	,,
101	St. Kitts-Nevis	1886
102	Basutoland (Governor's Visit)	1890
103	British New Guinea	1888–9
104	Natal	1889
105	Malta	,,
106	British Guiana	,,
107	Barbados	,,
108	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
109	Western Australia	,,
110	Gold Coast (Agriculture)	1890
111	Labuan	1889
112	Jamaica	,,
113	Falkland Islands	,,
114	Basutoland	1889–90
115	Sierra Leone	1889
116	Fiji	,,
117	Hong Kong	,,
118	St. Helena	,,

NEW SERIES OF COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

1	British Honduras	1889
2	Mauritius	,,
3	British Bechuanaland	1889–90
4	Victoria	1889
5	Newfoundland	,,
6	British New Guinea	1889–90
7	St. Vincent	1890
8	Bermuda	,,
9	Leeward Islands	1889
10	St. Lucia	1890
11	Bahamas	,,
12	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
13	Gibraltar	,,
14	Zululand	,,
15	Sierra Leone	,,
16	Barbados	,,
17	Falkland Islands	,,
18	Labuan	,,
19	British Honduras	,,
20	Basutoland	1890–91
21	Trinidad and Tobago	1890
22	Leeward Islands	,,
23	Grenada	,,
24	Straits Settlements	,,
25	British Guiana	,,

No. 26.

ST. HELENA.

[For Report for 1889, *see* No. 118, Old Series.]

GOVERNOR GREY WILSON to LORD KNUTSFORD.

The Castle, St. Helena,
July 16, 1891.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Blue Book of this Island for the year 1890.

2. Although the financial aspect disclosed by these returns is not quite so disquieting as I had anticipated, the general condition of the Island justifies the most gloomy forebodings. The revenue was 8,728*l.*, and the expenditure 9,032*l.*; so that we exceeded our income by only 304*l.* The revenue was nominally 220*l.* more than in 1889; but very nearly this sum may be written off on both sides of the account as due to the receipt and refund of duty upon coal now supplied to Her Majesty's ships by local contractors, the naval yard having been abolished. Nearly every item of the revenue, except customs, shows a steady shrinkage; and but for two leaky ships, which yielded a large revenue, the customs would also have shown a startling decline. Thus it is that, although our financial condition is not so desperate as was anticipated, the state of the Island is no better than my fears led me to anticipate, and is by no means so satisfactory as the revenue appears to indicate. Work has been very scarce. The high rates charged by the mail steamers for passages to the Cape have restricted emigration; and poverty and suffering, though bravely borne, have in consequence engulfed far too many. Our solitary and isolated position, if strategically important, affords us none of the advantages which generally attend thereon. Too insignificant and remote from the mother country to arouse any general interest, we have for many years been the plaything of fate; but lately we have aroused some interest in the Cape of Good Hope because our apparently defenceless condition appeared to be a source of danger to that Colony.

Taxation.

The Tax Ordinance came into operation upon the first of January; and, although its enactment was attended with considerable opposition, there does not appear to have been any friction in its application.

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ST. HELENA.

The Ordinance, indeed, made no increase whatever in the taxation; while it afforded relief, to the extent of nearly one-half of the previous licences, to the owners of fishing and passage boats, who stood in very urgent need of assistance. It also reduced the tax for a ginger beer or tea licence from 3*l.* to 5*s.* The water rate, however, was slightly increased (it yielded 162*l.* in 1889 and 187*l.* in 1890); but only because the general reduction in the Poor Board valuation, upon which the water rate is assessed, had unduly reduced the revenue from water.

Water in St. Helena is so good and plentiful as to be hardly appreciated at its proper value. The very extensive plant by which it is distributed, not only to Jamestown, but to the villages of the Briars, Ruperts, Half Tree Hollow, and to Longwood, is a heritage of the East India Company's liberality, which will necessitate a considerably larger contribution from the public than the present to replace it, or a return to the now forgotten inconvenience of fetching water from a public tank. The highest water rate charged for a large house and garden is 2*l.* a year; the lowest, *i.e.* for houses of the freehold value of 100*l.*, is 2*s.* 6*d.*; for which small sums occupiers can have a constant supply of water. At the Briars and Ruperts very little restraint is now placed upon quantity; while at Half Tree Hollow every cottager has about 40 to 50 gallons put daily, at Government expense, into a barrel near his cottage upon payment of 2*s.* 6*d.* a year. I would invite those who grumble to compare this figure with the rates of almost any other Colony, or to picture the sometimes desperate scarcity of water in British Honduras, the Gold Coast, and Ascension; and they cannot fail to admit that in regard to water St. Helena has much to be very thankful for.

Local Bodies.

It has hitherto been found impossible to excite any interest in regard to the Health or Markets Boards. Year after year the Sheriff reports that the appeal to the electors has elicited no response, and year after year the Governor nominates the Boards. It is due to the present Board of Health, who have now held office by reappointment since the passing of the Public Health Ordinance in 1889, to state that they have displayed very considerable energy, patience, and perseverance, in carrying out some, at least, of the reforms of the new law; but, so long as the inhabitants of Jamestown view with apathetic indifference all sanitary science, all questions of hygiene, and the, morally and physically, vastly important subject of overcrowding closely connected therewith, so long must a grievous stigma rest upon the Island—a stigma the more poignant by reason of the great social and educational advantages which have long been enjoyed. Our splendid climate no doubt minimizes dangers which might otherwise develope into crushing catastrophes; but no country, and far less St. Helena, posing as a sanitorium, can afford to continue

to despise or ignore the plain, though still feeble, warnings of Nature.

The election of the Poor Board has never failed to arouse interest, because it is a tangible and easily-recognised purse lightener; but to bring home to every householder that the indirect taxation resulting from a contempt of sanitary laws may be heavier and less seasonably levied than a voluntary contribution is a problem demanding very earnest attention, and one which cannot be too frequently forced upon a public who show no appreciation of the vast fields of discovery laid bare by modern sanitary science.

Public Debt.

The debt of the Island at the end of the year was 6,408*l.* Of this sum 1,250*l.* is the balance of a loan of 19,500*l.*, raised between 1868 and 1872 at 7 per cent., of which 1,000*l.* was repaid during the year; and 5,158*l.* is a loan made by the Imperial Parliament in 1872, free of interest.

Assets and Liabilities.

On the 31st of December the assets of the Colony were 11,831*l.*, and the current liabilities were 11,018*l.* The assets, therefore, exceeded the liabilities by 813*l.*

Military.

In January 1889 a detachment of Artillery was sent from here to mount the heavy guns at Sierra Leone, and shortly afterwards (April 1889) another detachment went to Mauritius; and just before the close of that year the removal of the remainder of the battery (save a few caretakers) was accomplished. The reduction of the garrison not only directly stimulated emigration to the Cape, but it left those who remained poorer than before. In my opinion the money circulated by the officers and men of the garrison bears this direct ratio to emigration. Replace the former garrison, and emigration will be checked; leave the strength as it is, and emigration will continue; remove the Imperial troops, and emigration must advance with a rush, and be aided by Government, for it will not be possible for any Government to leave the inhabitants to the terrible sufferings which must then overwhelm them.

In October Colonel Maclean (late R.A.) came out to the Island to report upon the prospects of a Militia, and after a careful and systematic investigation he made a report which is now under the consideration of Her Majesty's Government. It seems impossible that any further information can be desired. It is much to be hoped that an early settlement of the matter may be arrived at, and that the present uncertainty and disquietude may finally be put an end to.

ST. HELENA.

Public Works.

The expenditure upon works and buildings was 1,090*l.*, a sum slightly in excess of the estimate but counterbalanced by a larger reimbursement in aid than was anticipated. The principal works of the year was the thorough scraping and cleaning of the iron water mains supplying the Town and the village of Ruperts. These two water supplies are entirely distinct both as to source and course. The one to Ruperts was raised from a very indifferent to a first-rate one, and the work in town has greatly improved the pressure available at fires and has increased the supply available for calling ships. A serious collapse of the sea-wall and road at the narrowest part of the wharf took place, and the difficulty of making a new foundation below low-water mark caused, in a Colony without a Colonial Engineer, some anxiety. A dam having been first constructed to keep the sea out, the foundation, laid in Medina cement, was rapidly completed during low waters, and our anxiety was at an end. Mr. Woodman, the Foreman of Works, deserves great credit for the manner in which he carried out this work, the whole cost of which did not exceed 100*l.*, including the blasting and transport of about 600 tons of stone used upon the dam and upon a small breakwater to protect it.

Some renovations and considerable general repairs were effected upon the public buildings. Cypress wood has been used exclusively upon public works since 1888, when I first introduced it; and even in those buildings which were infested with white ants no trace has been found of an attack having been made on it.

The hospital drainage system upon being opened was found to include a defective cesspit and to be generally in a most deplorable condition, and had to be entirely renewed. Doulton's pipes and fittings of the most modern description were used, and the new sanitary arrangements are fully abreast of modern requirements.

Legislation.

Five Ordinances were enacted, and one Order of Her Majesty in Council was made, during the year.

No. 1. Provides for the custody and care of prisoners removed to St. Helena to undergo their imprisonment.

Under this Ordinance three prisoners from Zululand were brought to the Island.

Nos. 2 and 3 are Supply Ordinances.

No. 4. Provides for the taking of a census in April 1891, and upon any subsequent day which the Governor may notify by proclamation. It is not in contemplation at present to have more than a decennial enumeration, but it appeared desirable to obviate the necessity for future census legislation. The schedule to the Ordinance can be varied by the Governor so as to secure any information which hereafter it may be thought desirable to collect.

No. 5. Prohibits any Zulu not provided with a pass from landing in St. Helena.

By Order in Council of the 1st of May the Supreme Court of St. Helena was constituted a Court for Divorce and Matrimonial Causes. The jurisdiction extends only to marriages solemnized in St. Helena between persons of whom one was or shall be domiciled in St. Helena at the time of the marriage.

In 1858 an Ordinance was passed extending to this Island the jurisdiction conferred in 1857 upon the Court of Divorce in England; but this Ordinance was disallowed by Her Majesty upon the ground that neither the Judicial Establishment nor the Bar was such as to justify the entrusting to St. Helena of the working of such very delicate machinery.

The enforced postponement, affecting St. Helena, doubtless, in common with many other Colonies, has, I think, been salutary; for, although our Judicial Establishment and Bar cannot be said to have progressed as is the case in other Colonies, and have, it must be admitted, even retrograded, yet the interval has enabled the laws of divorce and matrimonial causes to be better understood and appreciated generally, and the light of the precedents created by the English Court has prevented a perhaps too generous application of those remedial powers which Sir E. D. Hay appears in 1858 to have regarded as already necessary.

Council.

Captain A. E. Mackenzie, of the East Yorkshire Regiment, commanding the troops, was a member of Council until June, when Major A. A. Boggs, of the same regiment, relieved him. Mr. Saul Solomon was appointed a member of Council in March.

Civil Establishment.

Mr. R. L. Antrobus administered the Government from the 5th of November 1889 until the 8th of June 1890. I returned from England on the 8th of June, and was sworn in as Governor on the 18th of July.

Mr. R. M. L. Pritchard, the Harbour Master, retired upon pension in March, being succeeded by the second Officer of Customs, Mr. G. C. Bruce. Mr. Herbert Knipe was appointed third Officer of Customs.

The assistant printer, William Bagley, left the service; and Thomas Adams, a policeman, retired on pension.

Pensions.

Two pensioners, Mr. J. M. McDaniel, who retired in 1864, and Mahomed Troomal, who retired in 1845, died during the year. The former was 78 years old, and the latter about 84. Both cases bear witness to the excellence of our climate, which appears especially to exercise a conservative influence upon our pensioners. We have still upon the pension list an officer who was born in the last century, and several who are over 80 years of age. The total

ST. HELENA.

of the list had declined at the end of the year under review to 1,901*l.*, a sum still very nearly a quarter of our entire expenditure.

Population.

The population as ascertained by the census taken since the close of the year is a little under 4,000, of whom rather more than half are women; but, as I hope shortly to write a separate report upon the census, I will not here enter into any details. Owing to emigration, our population contains an undue proportion of aged, infirm, and children; but even these adverse circumstances have only occasioned a death rate of 16 per 1,000, if seamen who were landed ill (and generally very ill) and the victims of the great fall of rocks in 1890, are excluded.

Education.

The school attendance shows a falling off of 50, as compared with the previous year (869 to 819); but a large part of this is doubtless due to the emigration which has taken place. The efficiency of the schools was fully maintained, and the examinations disclosed genuine progress and good steady work. The Rev. F. H. Baker and the Rev. S. J. Ellis, the Inspectors of the Government schools, have devoted much time and labour to educational work, and deserve the grateful thanks of the Government for their gratuitous services.

It is, perhaps, not fair to compare St. Helena, with its very small higher education, with England and her very large one; but, after due allowance has been made for that fact, it cannot be regarded as unsatisfactory that in St. Helena more than one-fifth of the entire population are receiving education in elementary schools.

How best to diminish the quantity of parrot lore and develope that of deduced and applied knowledge is a question I cannot too earnestly press upon the attention of school teachers.

Imports and Exports.

Our exports consist of a few hides and a little wool, but the figures under the head of imports deserve notice. Not long ago an English paper called particular attention to the capacity of St. Helena as a beer-consuming Colony. The following table shows the consumption per head of liquor, tobacco, and sugar:—

	United Kingdom.	St. Helena.
Beer - - - -	28·4 gallons	25 bottles
Spirits - - - -	5·5 bottles	2·6 „
Wines - - - -	2·1 „	12 „
Tobacco - - - -	1·42 lbs.	1·75 lbs.
Sugar - - - -	69·91 „	67 „

We may, however, fairly credit passing ships and the sailors of Her Majesty's war vessels with some considerable proportion of this consumption.

The value of the imports was 31,958*l.* and of the exports 325*l.*; in neither of which have I included the whale oil, valued at 13,433*l.*, transhipped here. The imports were 3,000*l.* in excess of those in 1889.

Shipping.

407 vessels communicated with the Island, of which 211 called and 196 were boarded by licensed traders. These figures are 142 below those of the previous year.

Criminal Statistics.

Under this head the figures are very satisfactory. 142 offences were reported to the police; 113 persons were summarily convicted; and in the Supreme Court there was only one conviction, an assault of by no means a serious description.

Serious crime is almost unknown here; but we are troubled with an unusually large proportion of juvenile offenders whose destructive capacity is unlimited.

The gaol was free from illness during this year.

Meteorological.

The rainfall in 1890 was 35 inches, or five inches above the average for the country. In 1842 only 19 inches fell, while 90 inches fell in 1845; but of late years we have fortunately experienced no such excessive variations. Four-sevenths of the year may be generally expected to be fine.

Savings Bank.

3,762*l.* was deposited during the year, and 1,624*l.* withdrawn. The amount to the credit of the depositors rose from 8,060*l.* to 10,393*l.*, and the number of depositors from 94 to 112, as compared with the previous year; but, as there is no other bank in the Island, and no limit is now placed upon the amount which may be deposited, these figures cannot be taken as representing the savings of people. The net profit upon the transactions of the year was 33*l.* 16*s.* 10*d.*, the amount invested being 9,575*l.*

Post Office.

Although the Blue Book takes no cognisance of this Department, which is I think to be regretted, I venture to include a notice of it in my report, as being one of the few, financially, bright spots in our otherwise declining prosperity.

ST. HELENA.

The gross revenue was 870*l.*, the largest during the past ten years; and the gross expenditure was 192*l.*, the lowest during the same period. 14,934 letters and 2,763 books and papers were sent from the Island. 10,592 letters were received from South Africa; but no record exists of the number of letters received from England, which I estimate at 17,000. The mail service, performed alternately by the Union and Castle Steamship Companies, was most irregular and very unsatisfactory; but there are not wanting signs of the possibility of new steamship companies shortly competing for the South African trade, and indeed the very rapid development of that country renders it certain that the existing allied lines cannot for long maintain their present monopoly. Whether the inevitable competition will benefit us remains to be seen. I am not without hope.

I mention with regret that it has not been found possible to adopt the 2½*d.* rate for correspondence from the Island now almost universally adopted in the Empire. The present 6*d.* rate is a heavy strain upon our very poor population, all of whom have many relatives and friends who have emigrated to South Africa. No satisfactory measure for replacing the deficiency which the reduction would occasion could be devised, and this most desirable reform has had, like many others, to be postponed.

Great Fall of Rocks.

Upon the 17th of April about 1,500 tons of rock fell from a height of 600 feet upon the town, wrecking 14 houses, killing instantly 9 people in their beds, injuring 7 seriously and many others slightly. To alleviate the distress, and in some measure to recoup the loss inflicted upon the victims, who were nearly all of the poorest class, a subscription was started. The appeal for funds was well responded to in the Island, and received liberal support from both the steamship companies and from a few gentlemen in England interested in the Island. Many St. Helenians resident in South Africa also came to our assistance.

A sum of 290*l.* was thus realised, nearly all of which was distributed, and with the very small remainder a memorial drinking fountain has been erected in the main street of Jamestown.

Messrs. Walter Macfarlane and Co., of Glasgow, supplied a large canopied fountain for a purely nominal sum; Messrs. Ockenden and Mayper brought it out free of freight, and the Government have borne the cost of erection in view of the great advantage which the fountain will be to the Town.

In a tropical climate drinking fountains are an inestimable boon, and I hope some day we may secure one for the upper part of the Town, not by a further catastrophe such as that which the present fountain commemorates, but as the gift of some past resident or friend anxious to have his memory perpetuated in the gratitude of his countrymen.

Conclusion.

Mr. R. L. Antrobus's admirable report upon the Blue Book for 1889 goes beyond the usual scope of such reports, and is in fact a general review of the condition and prospects of the Island, collated from the facts and figures not of one but of many years. That such a review should be made from time to time is most desirable. It infuses vitality and interest into figures which taken by themselves are generally dry-as-dust, and it forces upon public attention comparisons and deductions most necessary for the due appreciation of the existing state of affairs.

It is not often that an official of the Colonial Office emerges for a short time from the atmosphere of Downing Street into that of the Colonial Empire upon official duty; but I am convinced that the benefit, not only to the Colony concerned but also to the Colonial Office, is such as to render it most desirable that such a transfusion should be an event of more frequent occurrence.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. GREY WILSON,
Governor.

NOTE.—In consequence of the arrival of the Lismore Castle five days before time, this despatch has, I regret to state, been put together very roughly.—W. G. W.

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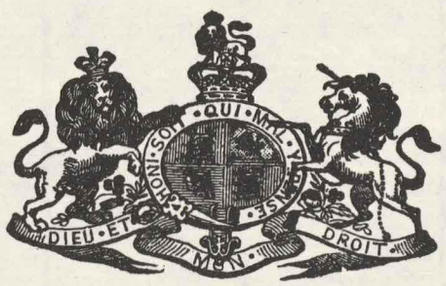
No. 38.

ST. VINCENT.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1891.

(For Report for 1890, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 7.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
May 1892.



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1892.

[C.—6563.-22.]

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4	Victoria	1889
5	Newfoundland	,,
6	British New Guinea	1889–90
7	St. Vincent	1890
8	Bermuda	,,
9	Leeward Islands	1889
10	St. Lucia	1890
11	Bahamas	,,
12	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
13	Gibraltar	,,
14	Zululand	,,
15	Sierra Leone	,,
16	Barbados	,,
17	Falkland Islands	,,
18	Labuan	,,
19	British Honduras	,,
20	Basutoland	1890–91
21	Trinidad and Tobago	1890
22	Leeward Islands	,,
23	Grenada	,,
24	Straits Settlements	,,
25	British Guiana	,,
26	St. Helena	,,
27	Mauritius	,,
28	Gambia	,,
29	Hong Kong	,,
30	Ceylon	1889
31	Lagos	,,
32	Lagos	1890
33	Ceylon	,,
34	Newfoundland	,,
35	Jamaica	1889–91
36	Victoria	1890
37	British New Guinea	1890–91

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.

No. 38.

ST. VINCENT.

[For Report for 1890, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 7.]

Sir W. HELY-HUTCHINSON to LORD KNUTSFORD.

St. Vincent, March 11, 1892.

Forwarded.

WALTER HELY-HUTCHINSON.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

Government House, St. Vincent,
March 10, 1892.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Excellency my report on the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1891.

2. The Blue Book is being printed and will be forwarded to your Excellency as soon as possible.

I have, &c.
(Signed) IRWIN C. MALING,
Administrator.

His Excellency
The Hon. Sir Walter Hely-Hutchinson, K.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.
Grenada.

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1. *Taxes, Duties, and Fees.*

The only change to be noted under this head during the year is under "The Liquor Licence Ordinance, 1891," viz.:—

(*a*) The abolition of the town and country annual licences for sale of malt liquors, and

(*b*.) The creation of an "occasional licence" on payment of (10*s*.) ten shillings for sale of intoxicating liquors at any

ST. VINCENT

public entertainment or place of amusement to which the public have access.

2. *Revenue and Expenditure.*

Revenue.

	£
The revenue estimated for the year was	26,615
There was actually collected	27,649
Thus showing an excess of	1,034

The revenue exceeded that of the preceding year, 1890, (27,103*l.*) by 546*l.*

In comparison with 1890, the details of revenue for 1891 show the following noticeable variations :—

Increases :—

	£
Import duties increased	536
Liquor licences „	165
Excise duty on rum	182

The above-mentioned items may be regarded as representing together an improved money-spending capacity of the Colony.

Revenue stamps increased 201*l.*, due entirely to the stamps used in connexion with the will of the late Mr. D. K. Porter.

The increase of 30*l.* under "Rents of Government property" is nominal, arising by the separation of this item from the head "Miscellaneous."

Under "Interest" the item "savings bank" represents the surplus interest on investments in excess of interest credited to depositors for the years 1889–1890.

The item "Kingstown Waterworks" represents interest charged to that account for advances from the general revenue in lieu of the issue of debentures.

Decreases :—

	£
Export duties decreased	169
Tonnage „ „	143
Together	312

chiefly the result of the smaller sugar crop, which will be found on reference to the export figures to have been 1,108 hogsheads less than in 1890—about one-fifth.

The decrease in harbour dues, 49*l.*, has been caused by the discontinuance of the visits of American steamers bringing goods direct from America; these steamers paid 2*l.* on each entry.

The falling off in the Post Office revenue is due to the reduction in the rates to all British Possessions from (4*d.*) fourpence to (2½*d.*) twopence halfpenny, and a smaller demand by stamp-dealing people during the year—the reduction is an advantage, which not only will all well-wishers of postal intercourse rejoice at, but which it may in all reason be expected will be recouped by increased correspondence.

The following table exhibits a comparison between the revenues of 1890 and 1891 under the several heads of revenue:—

Details.	Revenue, 1890.	Revenue, 1891.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Customs:				
Import duties	13,936 17 5	14,472 11 5	535 14 0	—
Export duties	1,314 18 3	1,145 12 3	—	169 6 0
Harbour dues	222 3 0	172 19 0	—	49 4 0
Tonnage dues	1,087 2 6	943 17 6	—	143 5 0
Licenses:				
Liquor	861 0 0	1,026 0 0	165 0 0	—
Stills	175 0 0	171 0 0	—	4 0 0
Auctioneers, &c.	29 9 6	25 4 6	—	4 5 0
Boats	103 14 11	103 12 9	—	0 2 2
Droghers	46 3 3	50 7 6	4 4 3	—
Guns	33 15 0	32 5 0	—	1 10 0
Dogs	248 13 9	223 18 9	—	24 15 0
Horses, &c.	509 15 0	472 17 6	—	36 17 6
Carriages and carts	75 7 6	77 2 6	1 15 0	—
Charcoal, &c.	56 17 6	35 3 0	—	21 14 6
Excise:				
Duty on rum	3,802 13 0	3,984 15 0	182 2 0	—
Stamps:				
Revenue	434 13 0	635 8 0	200 15 0	—
Taxes:				
Income	428 9 8	426 19 5	—	1 10 3
Land	1,254 9 9	1,224 12 1	—	29 17 8
Fines and forfeitures of Court.	466 5 8	447 0 11	—	19 4 9
Fees of office:				
Registrar	174 13 7	163 11 3	—	11 2 4
Police magistrates	281 9	306 6 0	24 17 0	—

Details.	Revenue, 1890.	Revenue, 1891.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Reimbursements in aid: Hospital	248 17 3	207 2 4	—	41 14 11
Cemetery	98 7 0	50 5 0	—	48 2
Botanical garden	—	9 14 7	9 14 7	—
Warehouse rent	50 10 1	66 11 3	16 1 2	—
Post Office: Sale of stamps	899 0 0	731 0 0	—	168 0 0
Commission on Money Orders.	47 9 3	55 7 2	7 17 11	—
Rents of Government property.	—	30 0 0	30 0 0	—
Interest: Crown lands account	10 10 10	—	—	10 10
Colonial bank	—	10 18 4	10 18 4	—
Savings bank	—	115 0 9	115 0 9	—
Kingstown waterworks	47 10 4	130 16 1	83 5 9	—
Town of Kingstown loan	—	5 14 7	5 14 7	—
Miscellaneous receipts: Sundries	157 6 2	95 5 1	—	62 1
£	27,103 2 2	27,648 19 6	1,393 0 4	847 3 0

Expenditure.

	£
The expenditure of 1891 was fixed on the estimates at	26,478
The total amount expended was	28,537
Of the excess	2,059,
Public works recurrent represent for extra heavy repairs about	240
Public works extraordinary	835
Education (extra grants to schools) about	225
Jamaica Exhibition	278
Post Office	283
Miscellaneous	190
Together	2,051

In comparison with 1890 the details of expenditure of 1891 represent the usual fluctuations which call for no explanation beyond the general remark that many of the items of 1891 represent expenditure authorised in 1890 but not incurred in full or at all until 1891.

The following is a statement of the expenditure of the year, under the several heads enumerated as compared with that of 1890:—

Heads of Expenditure.	1890.	1891.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Charges on account of public debt.	1,082 10 0	1,060 0 0	—	22 10 0
Pensions	2,002 11	1,940 0 4	—	62 11 2
Governor and legislature	1,115 13 4	984 18 11	—	130 14 5
Colonial secretary's department.	1,323 10 9	1,497 8 9	173 18 0	—
Treasury, Customs, and Inland Revenue.	1,268 2 1	1,256 1 1		12 1 0
Audit department	268 18 1	222 9 9	—	46 8 4
Legal departments	3,366 10 4	3,394 4 0	27 13 8	—
Police	2,761 12 5	2,696 5 0	—	65 7 5
Prisons	564 19 8	604 8 8	39 9 0	—
Medical departments, hospitals, &c.	4,285 9 1	4,028 9 11	—	256 19 2
Education	1,606 12 6	2,083 2 1	476 9 7	—
Charitable	454 10 0	382 16 4	—	71 13 8
Miscellaneous	897 15 5	1,286 18 3	389 2 10	—
Sufferers—fire, Martinique	100 0 0	—	—	100 0 0
Census	—	321 4 0	321 4 0	—
Post Office	1,097 3 11	1,345 9 5	248 5 6	—
Botanical Station	261 0 6	340 19 10	79 19 4	—
Colonial engineer's department.	489 0 0	489 4 11	0 4 11	—
Public works recurrent	1,528 15 0	1,955 12 11	426 17 11	—
Public works extraordinary	1,051 14 6	2,356 14 10	1,305 0 4	—
Jamaica Exhibition	284 14 6	277 17 2	—	6 17 4
Interest	241 8 2	—	—	241 8 2
Director of Public Works	—	12 10 0	12 10 0	—
Total	26,052 11 9	28,536 16 2	3,500 15 1	1,016 10 8

3. *Public Debt.*

	£
The year 1891 opened with a public debt of - -	12,270
which sum was augmented during the year by the issue of debentures for the purpose of repaying the general revenue the amounts advanced during the year 1890 on account of the following services:—	
Kingstown new waterworks - - -	2,600
Crown lands account - - -	1,000
making the total public debt - - - -	15,870
From this, however, has to be deducted a sum of -	1,510
being the amount represented by debentures redeemed during the year.	
The amount of public debt therefore at end of the year was - - - - - -	14,360

made up as under:—

1. Government House loan - - -	1,840
2. Immigration loan - - -	3,750
3. Public buildings loan - - - -	800
4. Crown lands loan - - -	1,920
5. Public debt loan - - - -	2,550
6. Kingstown waterworks loan - -	3,500
	14,360

4. *Public Works.*

The total amount expended on public works, recurrent and extraordinary, during the year was 4,312*l.* 7*s.* 9*d.*; of this there was expended on:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
1. New line of highway Overland Village -	73	0	0
2. Erection of bridge over Cumberland River -	261	0	0
3. Renewing piling to Kingstown jetty -	978	0	0
4. Continuation of road through Botanic Garden and repairs to main drain at Government House - - - - -	95	0	0
5. Construction of Curator's lodge - -	327	0	0
6. Establishing cemetery at Calliqua - -	62	0	0
7. Repairs to Colonial Hospital - -	113	0	0
8. Widening and deepening the "Bottle and Glass" Pass at Banonallie - -	76	0	0
9. Repairs to Banonallie police station -	67	0	0
10. Small repairs, &c. to various public buildings, &c. - - - - -	901	16	5

with the exception of the works numbered 2, 3, and 9, the above were completed during the year.

1,358*l.* 11*s.* 4*d.* was spent on repairs to highways during 1891.

5. *Legislation.*

The following Ordinances were passed by the Legislative Council during the year 1891:—

Ordinances.

No. 1. An Ordinance to amend "The Kingstown Regulation Ordinance, 1882."

No. 2. An Ordinance to amend "The Trade and Revenue Ordinance, 1882."

No. 3. An Ordinance to provide for taking a census of Saint Vincent in the year one thousand eight hundred and ninety-one.

No. 4. An Ordinance to legalise the expenditure of certain sums of money paid from the general revenue for the service of the year 1889 in addition to the sums already sanctioned under "The Appropriation Ordinance, 1889," and "The Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance, 1889."

No. 5. An Ordinance to amend "The Births, Marriages, and Deaths Registration Ordinance, 1887."

No. 6. An Ordinance to provide for the appointment and Regulation of surveyors and for the survey of vacant lands and for the survey of the boundaries of Crown and other lands and to repeal certain laws relating thereto.

No. 7. An Ordinance to provide for the supply of water to Georgetown and for the repayment of a loan to be raised for that purpose.

No. 8. An Ordinance to amend "The Liquor Licence Ordinance, 1886."

No. 9. An Ordinance to provide for the service of the Colony of Saint Vincent for the year one thousand eight hundred and ninety-two.

No. 10. An Ordinance to legalise the expenditure of certain sums of money paid from the general revenue for the service of the year 1890 in addition to the sums already sanctioned under "the Appropriation Ordinance, 1890."

No. 11. An Ordinance to amend "The Charcoal Ordinance, 1890."

6. *Council.*

Mr. George Smith, Q.C., unofficial member of the Executive and Legislative Councils, obtained three months' leave of absence during the year. No temporary appointment was made in his place

On the 14th May Mr. G. P. St. Aubyn, police magistrate of the Kingstown district, was appointed a member of the Legislative Council in the room of the late Mr. G. Van Heyningen, whose seat had not up to the above date been filled.

ST. VINCENT. Mr. C. J. Simmons, unofficial member of the Legislative Council, was absent on leave from the 14th of August to the 9th of November.

7. *Civil Establishment.*

Few changes of importance occurred during the year.

Dr. M. G. Pereira was appointed medical officer of the No. 4 District on the 14th April; and Mr. G. P. St. Aubyn, police magistrate of the Kingstown District on the 13th of May; both of these officers were selected for their posts by the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

During the month of December Mr. C. J. McLeod, registrar of the Supreme Court, resigned his appointment, and was succeeded by Mr. George Anton, the Treasury Accountant.

In the Treasury Department Mr. G. F. Grant was promoted to the post of Accountant and Mr. G. D. Mackie to that of Clerk in the Treasury.

Mr. E. C. Lewis was confirmed as Colonial Postmaster.

8. *Pensions.*

During the year two pensions, amounting to 33*l.* 8*s.* 4*d.*, were granted, viz:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
1. Miss Cumming, Registrar of Births, Marriages, and Deaths, Windward District - - -	18	8	4
2. Mr. J. W. Creese, late Process Server - -	15	0	0
	33	8	4

The pension list has been, on the other hand, relieved by the deaths of the following pensioners:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
1. The Venerable Archdeacon Laborde - -	384	8	11
2. Mr. J. Donawa, late schoolmaster - - -	20	0	0
	404	8	11

The pension list has thus been reduced some 371*l.* 0*s.* 7*d.*

9. *Population—Census.*

According to the returns of the census taken on the 3rd of April 1881, and that taken on the 5th of April 1891, the popula-

tion of the Colony at the two dates respectively were as shown in the following statement :—

Complexion.	Population, 1881.	Population, 1891.
White - - - -	2,693	2,445
Coloured - - - - -	7,176	7,554
Black - - - -	30,679	31,055
Total - - - -	40,548	41,054

10. *Births and Deaths.*

The births and deaths registered in 1891 were as follows :—

Complexion.	Births, 1891.	Deaths, 1891.
White - - - -	78	51
Coloured - - - - -	326	161
Black - - - -	1,537	846
Total - - - -	1,941	1,058

11. *Education.*

There were 43 schools open during 1891 in receipt of Government aid ; two schools which had been closed for a considerable period were reopened and a new one was added to the list.

The average attendance of scholars during the year was larger than that of 1890, the amount granted in capitation fees having been in excess of that paid in 1890 by about 96*l.*

It is satisfactory, too, to note that the results of the last examinations held by the Inspector of Schools showed a very marked improvement on those of 1890, the number of passes and marks obtained being in excess of 1890.

Just before the close of the year an addition to the pay of the teachers was voted by the Legislature ; this step has tended to improve matters considerably, as not only have the teachers been placed in a better position, but it has acted as a stimulus to them in the performance of their duties

The rules and regulations at present in force for the government of state-aided schools are being revised with the view of improving the educational system of the Colony.

ST. VINCENT.

The following comparative statement of schools, &c. in 1890 and 1891 may be found interesting:—

—	1890.	1891.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Government grant based on average -	594 11 10	691 3 0
Payments by results - - - -	723 6 0	888 1 10
Payments to pupil-teachers - - -	76 0 0	66 10 0
Voluntary contributions - - - -	164 0 0	164 3 4
Fees - - - - -	195 19 11	191 18 4
Total - - -	1,753 17 9	2,001 16 6
Number of schools - - -	41	43
Average attendance - - - - -	3,229	2,925
Number on roll - - - -	Not shown	5,348

12. *Friendly Societies.*

During the year three new societies were registered in accordance with the provisions of the Friendly Societies Act, 1884, making a total of 16 registered.

13. *Imports and Exports.*

	£
The import and export trade of the Colony during the year amounted in value to - - -	196,512
Against, in 1890, - - - -	202,553
Showing a decrease of - - - -	6,041

which is doubly accounted for by the item "sugar," the export of which decreased in quantity about one fifth and in total value about the same, *i.e.*, 11,255*l.* On the other hand, however, the principal products of the Colony represent a very satisfactory condition in quantities and values as the following comparisons with 1890 will show:—

Article of Export.		Quantities.		Increase.	Decrease.
		1890.	1891.		
Arrowroot	barrels	20,847	17,591	—	3,256
Cassava starch	„	196	633	437	—
Cocoa	lbs.	102,771	114,683	11,912	—
Cotton	„	25,218	43,286	18,068	—
Firewood	cords	1,163	1,462	299	—
Rum	puns.	550	672	122	—
Spice	lbs.	13,005	14,846	1,841	—
Fruits and vegetables	bunches	126	234	108	—
	barrels	2,120	4,332	2,212	—
	dozens	2,070	2,392	322	—

Article of Export.	Values.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1890.	1891.		
	£	£	£	£
Arrowroot	31,270	31,095	—	175
Cassava starch	245	665	420	—
Cocoa	1,835	2,389	554	—
Cotton	421	902	481	—
Firewood	589	951	362	—
Rum	4,406	6,735	2,329	—
Spice	434	742	308	—
Fruits and vegetables	1,195	3,089	1,894	—

The increase in value in 1891 of the second staple product of the Colony, arrowroot, is most satisfactory, completely compensating for the reduced quantity (3,256 barrels) which was reaped.

It may here be added that the prices of arrowroot up to the date of this report in 1892 keep up bravely, thus giving hope of a comforting harvest for the year 1892.

14. *Shipping.*

The total number of sailing vessels entered during the year under review was 322. The tonnage of these vessels in the aggregate amounted to 14,410, their crews to 1,696.

The total number of sailing vessels cleared was 330 with a tonnage of 15,377 and crews 1,924.

The total number of steam vessels entered was 101 with tonnage amounting to 115,992 and crews 4,492.

Clearances of steam vessels in 1891 totalled 101 with a tonnage of 115,992 and crews 4,492.

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Of the 322 sailing vessels entered the nationalities were as follows :—

British	287
American	11
Dutch	11
Venezuelan	11
Italian	1
French	1
Total	322

Of the 330 sailing vessels cleared the following were the nationalities :—

British	295
American	11
Dutch	11
Venezuelan	11
Italian	1
French	1
Total	330

The 101 steam vessels entered and cleared were all British.

From the above figures it will be seen that in the number and tonnage of sailing vessels entered in 1891, as compared with 1890, there is a decrease of 23 and 801 tons, whilst of those cleared, though a decrease in number of 18, there is an increase in tons of 84.

The following table will show the differences in the number and tonnage of steam vessels entered and cleared as compared with the previous year :—

1890.		1891.		Decrease.	
Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
119	134,859	101	115,992	18	18,867

15. *Gaols and Prisoners.*

There was nothing worthy of special mention which occurred under this head. The following table presents a comparative statement of the working of the prison during the last three years :—

Year.	Number of Commitments.	Committed for Debt.	Committed for Custody for Trial or for want of Sureties.	Committed for penal Imprisonment.	No. of Prisoners previously convicted			Commitment for				Daily Average in Prison.	Admission to Hospital.	Daily Average on Sick List.	No. of Deaths.
					Once.	Twice.	Thrice or more.	Five Years or more.	More than One Year and less than Five Years.	More than Three Months and less than One Year.	Three Months or less.				
1889 - -	192	2	48	142	19	3	20	1	4	7	130	22·9	1	·12	1
1890 - -	170	3	48	119	4	8	10	3	8	2	106	20·0	2	3	1
1891 - - -	176	1	40	135	16	7	9	1	3	4	127	26·25	1	·38	—
Total - -	538	6	136	396	39	18	39	5	15	13	363	68·34	4	·53	2
Average -	179	2	45	132	13	6	13	1	5	4	121	22·78	1	·17	—

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16. *Criminal Statistics.*

Police Reports.

There was a decrease of 72 in the number of offences reported to the police as compared with 1890, the number for the latter year being 1,552, whilst that of 1891 was 1,480.

Apprehensions and Summonses.

Of the cases brought before the Magistrates' Courts for offences, 669 were convicted, 179 were discharged, 589 acquitted, and 15 were sent on to Higher Courts. With the exception of the number of convictions, there was a decrease in all of the above as compared with 1890.

Summary Convictions.

In the number of summary convictions in the Magistrates' Courts as compared with the preceding year there was an increase of 12; the number of convictions in the Supreme Court, however, was only six as against 14 in 1890.

The following comparative table showing the number of offences, convictions, and acquittals for the last four years shows a marked decrease under several heads in 1891:—

	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.
Number of offences reported to the police.	1,693	2,041	1,552	1,480
Number of summary convictions:—				
1. For offences against the person.	110	129	106	151
2. For prædial larceny - -	35	46	46	38
3. For offences against property other than prædial larceny.	96	125	92	110
4. For other offences - -	539	840	413	370
Number of convictions in the Superior Courts:—				
1. For offences against the person.	2	2	5	2
2. For offences aginst property other than prædial larceny.	4	4	9	4
Number of persons acquitted:—				
1. In the Inferior Courts -	244	249	247	179
2. In the Superior Courts -	8	2	2	4

17. *Crown Lands.*

Important changes took place in this direction. Up to the early part of the year the Crown Lands Boundary Commissioners, with their surveyor or surveyors, conducted the definition of the boundary line between the Crown lands (which occupy the whole of the interior of the island) and the adjacent estates; whilst allotments were surveyed and sold under the direction of the Administrator, assisted by the Colonial Engineer as superintendent of Crown lands. Roughly speaking, the Crown lands lying in the northern half of the island have been defined under the Commissioners, and it is from these lands that allotments have been and are being made. The Crown lands situated in the other, or southern, half of the island, with the exception of one or two localities, have yet to be marked off. Formerly allotments were sold as a rule in blocks of not less than one acre at 3*l.* per acre (including the cost of survey) payable in ten annual instalments of 6*s.* each, the option being always given to the applicant of purchasing outright, in which case the price per acre was considerably reduced.

By "The Surveyors Ordinance, 1891," the whole of this has been changed, the Crown Lands Boundary Commission having been abolished and a new Survey and Crown Lands Department created and placed under the charge of Mr. Henry Reeve, Director of Surveys of the Windward Islands.

The cost of survey and the price of Crown lands was rearranged, but the obligatory conditions as to payment of instalments, of purchase money, and planting of trees remain about the same.

A trigonometrical survey of the island has been commenced by the Director of Surveys and is proceeding, pending the further advancement of which the survey of the Crown lands boundary line has been temporarily stopped.

Under the new Regulations Crown lands (except village lots, for which there is special provision) are sold in blocks of not less than five acres.

The survey fee is required to be paid in advance at the time of application, and is 2*l.* 1*s.* 8*d.* for the first acre, 8*s.* 4*d.* for the second acre, and 4*s.* 2*d.* for every additional acre. The survey fee on five acres is therefore 3*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*

After survey and reports by the surveyor and superintendent of Crown lands the price is fixed, the minimum being 30*s.* cash or 2*l.* in five yearly instalments, per acre.

If the latter mode of payment is chosen the purchaser is required to pay his first instalment six months after date of application.

The first application under the new system was made in May, 1891, and at the close of the year the applications numbered 103 for a total of 660 acres in allotments, exclusive of a special application for a lot exceeding 300 acres.

ST. VINCENT.

Of these lands applied for only a few were not surveyed within the year; whilst, on the other hand, about 25 lots of one and two acres, applied for under the old system, were surveyed. Grants for these lands will be issued during the current year.

From the above it is apparent that the benefits of the scheme are not unappreciated, and it can fairly be said that, but for the depression in the sugar trade which limits the circulation of money amongst the people there would have been many more applications during the year.

The scheme with careful management promises to be successful.

18. *Hospitals.*

On the 1st January 1891 there were 39 patients in the Colonial Hospital from the previous year, 21 being males and 18 females. During the year 424 were admitted, namely, 254 men and 170 women, an increase of 12 as compared with 1890.

The daily average number in hospital during the year was 52 as against 48 in the preceding year. The patients discharged were 431, 257 being males and 174 females.

The deaths were 32, of which 18 were those of men and 14 of women.

The total number of out patients attended to at the hospital from 1st January to 31st December 1891 was 2,317.

19. *Public Health.*

The Colonial Surgeon reports as follows with regard to the health of the colony during the past year:—

"1891 compares very favourably with the previous year from a health point of view.

"In 1890, from beginning to end, the effects of the epidemic of influenza of 1889–90 were severely felt in all parts of the island, greatly increasing the death-rate, whereas in 1891 the first six months were exceptionally healthy. In June, however, there was a return of influenza in a milder form, which for time disturbed the general healthiness, but happily it died out in July, not leaving much trouble behind it. After the heavy rains of June there were several cases of typhoid fever in and about Kingstown, specially among young persons, and some deaths occurred, but this disappeared by the end of July. There were also some cases of cerebro-spinal fever and idispathic tetanus, brought into hospital from marshy districts, which nearly all came in moribund. There was, however, but little malaria fever ve in the fall of the year when it is usually looked for.

"In the very hot months there were the usual cases of choleraic diarrhœa, but the cases were mild and followed by little or no dysentery, which generally comes in its track.

"The death-rate at Colonial Hospital was only 6·9 per 100 against 9·9 in 1890. That among children of the labouring classes is still higher than it should be; but against stolid stupidity, neglect, and superstition the best efforts of the medical officer can make but slow headway.

"Leprosy does not appear to be on the increase, as the small average of 17 at the Leper Asylum shows; were it so, it would easily be ascertained, as the negro in the present state of the labour market can ill afford to maintain useless members and is only too ready to avail himself of the help of the Pauper or Leper Asylum.

"Yaws, though more or less at the same level, does not so often present itself in its more hideous form. It has, however, made its appearance in the Grenadines which have hitherto escaped this pest."

20. *General Remarks.*

The year under review has been a prosperous one on the whole, and the present advanced price on the second largest staple product of the Colony, namely, "arrowroot," leads one to hope that the satisfactory financial condition of the Colony will be maintained during the current year.

Since writing my last report the Kingstown new water-works were satisfactorily completed in October last, at an expenditure of 7,735*l.* Thus the inhabitants of Kingstown are afforded a continuous supply of excellent water. No gift more acceptable could be presented to the inhabitants of Kingstown, and I am sure it is much appreciated, knowing as they do how much their health and comfort depend on the nature of the water they drink.

It is intended during the current year to cover with a suitable roof the reservoir at Montrose, situated at an elevation of 190 feet above the sea level, and calculated to hold a little over 300,000 gallons of water.

The actual daily supply from this reservoir being about 100,000 gallons there remain some 200,000 gallons of water for any emergency that may arise.

Besides this new water supply there are two other reservoirs one at Richmond Hill, at an elevation of about 230 feet, containing 72,000 gallons, and the other at Lower Montrose, at an elevation of 131 feet, containing some 46,000 gallons. Both these reservoirs are reserved solely for fire purposes.

The Curator's house at the Botanic Station, also referred to in my last report, was commenced and completed within the year, nd the Curator has taken up his residence there.

The extension and repairs to the Kingstown jetty were also undertaken during the year at an estimated cost of 1,171*l.*, out of which sum 978*l.* has been expended. The work is near completion. The total length of the jetty is 234 feet, having a width of 31 feet, with a frontage of 76 × 49. On this portion of the jetty it is

ST. VINCENT. intended to place a crane to facilitate the landing of goods, which will be removed in trucks running on rails to the Government Bonded Warehouse proposed to be erected within the Police Barrack yard.

(Signed) IRWIN C. MALING,
Administrator.

St. Vincent,
9th March 1892.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 46.

MAURITIUS
(SEYCHELLES).

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1891.

(For Report for 1890, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 40.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
August 1892.



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1892.

[C.—6829.–1.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
10	St. Lucia	1890
11	Bahamas	"
12	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
13	Gibraltar	"
14	Zululand	"
15	Sierra Leone	"
16	Barbados	"
17	Falkland Islands	"
18	Labuan	"
19	British Honduras	"
20	Basutoland	1890–91
21	Trinidad and Tobago	1890
22	Leeward Islands	"
23	Grenada	"
24	Straits Settlements	"
25	British Guiana	"
26	St. Helena	"
27	Mauritius	"
28	Gambia	"
29	Hong Kong	"
30	Ceylon	1889
31	Lagos	"
32	Lagos	1890
33	Ceylon	"
34	Newfoundland	"
35	Jamaica	1889–91
36	Victoria	1890
37	British New Guinea	1890–91
38	St. Vincent	1891
39	Bermuda	"
40	Seychelles and Rodrigues	1889 and 1890
41	Gambia	1891
42	Barbados	"
43	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
44	Bahamas	"
45	Fiji	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.

No. 46.

MAURITIUS

(SEYCHELLES).

[For Report for 1890, *see* Colonial Report [Annual], No. 40.]

Acting Governor JERNINGHAM to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, Mauritius,
May 23, 1892.

MY LORD,

THE following despatch from the Acting Administrator transmits his Report on the Seychelles Blue Book for the year 1891.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HUBERT E. H. JERNINGHAM.
Administering the Government.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

Government House, Seychelles,
May 14, 1892.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit my Report on the Seychelles Blue Book for the year 1891.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. M. BROWN,
Acting Administrator.

His Honour Hubert E. H. Jerningham, C.M.G.,
Officer Administering the Government of Mauritius.

REPORT ON THE SEYCHELLES BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1891.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

According to the figures supplied by the treasurer, the receipts of the year 1891 amounted to Rs. 217,322.10 against

I 72520. Wt. 10230.

MAURITIUS. SEYCHELLES.

Rs. 224,169.27 in the preceding year, and the payments to Rs. 210,724.96 against Rs. 219,393.46 in the year 1890.

The excess of receipts over payments in 1891 was Rs. 6,597 against Rs. 4,765.91 in 1890.

The actual receipts in 1891 exceeded the estimated receipts by Rs. 7,172.16.

The actual payments fell short of estimated expenditure by Rs. 3,827.90.

The changes made in the form of the estimates in 1891, and as a consequence, in the classification of revenue and expenditure in the Treasury books, render it somewhat difficult to give a comparative statement of the details of revenue and expenditure.

The following may, however, be noted: Customs duties in 1890 gave 122,285.04, whereas in 1891 they yielded only 112,776.37, showing a decrease of Rs. 9,508.67. The revenue from this source fell short of the estimates only by Rs. 72.363.

Licenses, excise, and internal revenue not otherwise classified, produced in 1891, according to the Treasurer's report, Rs.41,863.42, the receipts under the items comprised under that heading, having been (according to the printed estimates) in 1890, Rs. 41,370, showing consequently a slight increase (Rs. 493) in favour of 1891.

Taxes (local rate, dog tax, and water rates) produced in 1891 Rs. 31,165.45 as against Rs. 29,749 in 1890, showing an increase of Rs. 1,416.45 in favour of 1891.

Fees of court or office produced in 1891 Rs. 15,337.07. In 1890 the aggregate revenue of the items now included under that heading is stated in the estimates to have been *Rs. 11,819.* This shows an increase of Rs. 3,518 in favour of 1891.

Pilotage shows a difference of Rs. 300 in favour of 1891.

Post office and money orders produced in 1890 Rs. 9,268, whereas in 1891 this head produced only Rs. 5,782.02, showing a decrease of Rs. 3,485.98; this was foreseen, there having been a large sale of new postage stamps in 1890, which was not likely to be renewed in 1891—the revenue under this heading has, however, exceeded the estimate (Rs. 4,838) by Rs. 944.02.

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS.

Exports.

The imports, exclusive of specie, amounted to Rs. 798,698.45 against Rs. 620,578.80 in the preceding year, showing an increase of Rs. 178,119.65 in favour of 1891.

This increase as due to an exceptionally large crop of vanilla.

Imports.

The imports show a total of Rs. 610,325.50 against Rs. 657,512.20 in 1890, showing a decrease of Rs. 47,186.70. This is attributed to the following causes:—

Previous to 1891 the number of Indian traders was abnormal, and I am afraid the importations were somewhat recklessly made.

The result of this was felt in 1891. The progress of the Chinese, who are gradually getting the trade of these islands into their hands, who work steadily and avoid rash speculations, who import their own goods and have a vessel of their own, seriously interfered with the Indian custom of importers.

One importer with a large Indian clientèle, closed his business in December 1890, and as this entailed the closing of accounts of his customers, the result was the closing of several Indian firms, a series of law suits, levy of stock-in-trade, and consequent diminution of imports.

The very high rate of exchange, and the very low prices of vanilla, in the European market, have also necessarily affected the imports of the year.

Assets and Liabilities.

The assets of the Dependency on the 31st December 1891, according to a statement from the Treasurer duly audited, amounted to Rs. 97,143.87.

The liabilities amounted to Rs. 82,744.45, showing a balance in favour of assets of Rs. 14,399.42.

SHIPPING.

Seventy-nine vessels, manned by 8,356 men, and of an aggregate tonnage of 185,750 tons, entered the Port of Victoria in 1891, namely :—

		Tons.
19	men-of-war - - - -	24,252
36	mail steamers - - -	150,138
24	merchant vessels (other than mail steamers) - - -	11,360
79	Total -	185,750

Of the men-of-war—

13 were English.
1 was French.
1 was Italian.
2 were German.
2 were Portuguese.

Of the merchant vessels—

19 were British.
4 were Norwegian.
1 was French.
36 were French (mail steamers).

MAURITIUS.

SEYCHELLES.

POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS

A census of the Seychelles Islands was taken on the night of the 5th April 1891, showing a total population, exclusive of shipping, of 16,440, against 14,191 in 1881, showing an increase of 2,249 in 10 years.

What is called the general population, as distinguished from the African population, amounted to 14,686, of which 7,267 males to 7,419 females.

The African population amounted to 1,754, of which 1,035 males and 719 females.

Taking the whole population, the number of males exceeds that of females by 174.

The population of the principal Island of Mahé was 13,351, as against 11,436 in 1881.

The population of Praslin in 1891 was 1,235, as against 974 in 1881, and Ladigue 866, as against 742 in 1881. The other Islands showed an aggregate population of 945, as against 1,039 in 1881.

Of the total population of 16,440, there were 16,106 British subjects, 229 French subjects, 45 Chinese, 28 Portuguese, 10 Americans, 9 Arabians, 4 Germans, 2 Turks, 2 Swiss, 1 Swede, 1 Dutch, 1 Italian, 1 Spaniard, 1 Greek.

The natives of the British Isles numbered in all 84.

Natives of France numbered 76.

The total number of Europeans may be stated at 200.

It is not possible to state the number of inhabitants of European extraction, as they are merged in what is called the general population, as distinguished from the African.

The natives of Seychelles numbered 13,639.

Those of Mauritius and its minor dependencies, 391.

Natives of Africa, 1,754.

Asiatics, 293.

Natives of Réunion, 141.

The number of births registered in the Dependency was 619, as against 623 in 1890, namely:—

	General Population.		African Population.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Legitimate - - - - -	203	173	29	30
Natural acknowledged - - -	20	18	2	3
Natural - - - - -	69	65	4	3
Total - -	292	256	35	36

The birth-rate per 1,000 was 37·53, as against 44·24 in 1891.

The rate of still-births per 1,000 was 2, as against 4·26 in 1890.

The number of deaths registered during the year was 302, as against 257 in 1890, and the death-rate 18·37 per 1,000, against 18·25 in 1890.

There were 150 marriages, against 187 in 1890.

EDUCATION.

In 1891 there were 26 schools aided by Government grants, attended by 1,844 children, against 24 schools in 1890 attended by 1,844 children.

Twenty schools, with 1,542 pupils, were under the control of the Roman Catholic Mission, and six schools, with 302 pupils, were managed by the civil chaplain and the Church Missionary Society.

The sum voted in 1891 for grants in aid was Rs. 8,000, the same amount as in 1890.

It was apportioned as follows, viz.:—

	Rs.
Roman Catholic schools - -	6,542.61
Church of England schools - -	1,300.98
Church Mission school at Capucin -	156.41
	Rs. 8,000

JUDICIAL.

Criminal Side.

The total number of criminal informations filed in 1891 was 713, against 643 in 1890. Of the 713, 570 were filed by the police and 143 by private parties.

Six hundred and ninety-two cases were adjudicated upon, against 637 in 1890, 21 cases entered within the year had not been adjudicated upon or had not pressed to conclusion on the 31st December 1891, as against six in 1890.

Nine hundred and seventy-nine persons were charged in 1891 (808 by the police and 171 by parties) as against 845 in 1890.

There were 699 convictions in 1891 (628 upon police prosecution and 71 on prosecution by parties), as against 531 in 1890.

As in preceding years the most numerous offences were drunkenness and disturbance, there being 99 convictions for drunkenness, as against 112 in 1890, and 230 convictions for disturbance, as against 174 in 1890.

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There were 331 persons prosecuted for disturbance, of which 230 were convicted and 101 acquitted.

One hundred and ten persons were charged with larceny, as against 57 in 1890, and there were 80 convictions, as against 35 in 1890.

Of the 110 persons charged with larceny, there were 49 charged with larceny of agricultural produce. Of these, 34 were convicted.

On the other hand, there were 35 persons prosecuted for breach of the special law for repression of larcenies of produce, resulting in 29 convictions, against 67 persons charged and 56 convictions in 1890.

There was one prosecution for infanticide, which did not result in a commitment for trial, the accused was subsequently prosecuted and convicted for concealment of birth, and one charge of attempt at murder on private prosecution resulted in an acquittal.

The most serious offences this year were assaulting police, attempt at murder, attempt upon chastity, wounds and blows, concealment of birth, defamation, embezzlement, larceny, breach of Fishery law, adultery.

Civil Side.

The number of civil causes was 177, as against 147 in 1890, showing an increase of 30 cases; in addition to which there were 59 matters dealt with in chambers.

Stipendiary Side.

There were 136 persons charged in the Stipendiary Court, against 65 in 1890, and 78 convictions, against 40 in 1890.

The engagements and discharges before the stipendiary magistrate were as follows:—

	1891.	1890.
Engagements - - - -	50	168
Discharges - - - - -	81	57

showing a decrease in the number of labourers entering into written contracts of service of 118 against 1891.

The total number of cases in all jurisdictions entered before the Courts in 1890 and 1891 respectively stands as follows :—

	1891.	1890.
Criminal - - - - -	713	643
Civil - - - - - -	177	147
Stipendiary - - - - -	136	65
Total - - - -	1,026	855
Increase of 1891 over 1890	171 cases.	

There was in 1891 one appeal which was dismissed by the Supreme Court.

Gaol.

Three hundred and fifty-six persons were committed to gaol in 1891, as against 314 in 1890. Of these, one was sentenced to five years or more, and 11 to one year or more, the remainder being sentenced to less than one year.

In 1891 there were 5 deaths in the prison.

HOSPITAL.

The number of persons treated in the public hospital in 1891 was 197, against 170 in 1890, showing an increase of 27 ; they were as follows :—

	1890.	1891.
Paupers - - - - -	43	42
Prisoners - - - - -	50	56
Paying patients - - - -	77	99
Total - - - -	170	197

Of these 197 persons—

127 were discharged as cured.
32 „ „ relieved.
8 „ „ unrelieved.
18 died.
12 were still in hospital at the end of the year

The principal ailments were anæmia, dysentery, influenza, intussusception, meningitis, paralysis, pneumonia, rheumatism, ulcers, and vulnus.

There were 6,129 applications for medicines at the public dispensary in 1891, against 6,349 in 1890.

The vaccinations by the Government Medical Officers in 1891 were 310 at Mahé, and 74 in the Praslin ward; in all, 384.

LEPROSY CAMP.

There were seven lepers maintained in the leper camp on Curieuse Island during the year, namely :—

Males - - - - -	5
Females - - - - -	2

PAUPER CAMP.

Fifteen aged paupers were maintained in the pauper camp at Curieuse Island during the year.

LUNACY.

There were ten lunatics maintained at the expense of the Government of Seychelles at the Mauritius Lunatic Asylum during the year, three were declared lunatics during the year.

ECCLESIASTICAL.

In 1891, as in previous years, the only religious communities provided with churches and clergy, were the Protestant and Roman Catholic.

Of a population of 16,592 (including 152 forming the crew of H.M.S. "Marathon" then in harbour).

2,768 were returned as Protestants.
4 as Catholics Apostolic.
892 as Catholics.
12,610 as Roman Catholics.

The number of clergy, churches, and chapels employed by each community is as follows :—

Church of England.

Civil chaplain - - - - -	1
Minister for South Mahé - - -	1
Minister for Praslin - - - -	1
Evangelists and catechists - - -	8
Total -	11

Roman Catholic.

Bishop	1
Priests	13
Lay Brothers, of the Capucin order	4
Marist Brothers	7
Sisters of St. Joseph	45
Total	70

CHURCHES AND CHAPELS.

Church of England.

Churches	3
Chapels	8
Total	11

Roman Catholic.

Churches	12
Chapels	6
Total	18

PUBLIC WORKS.

The following are the principal public works attended to during the year.

Maintenance of Roads and Bridges.

Repairs were made to drains and streets, and to various bridges, some of which were pulled down and rebuilt. The roads were repaired and maintained partly by the Public Works Department, and partly by contractors.

Extension of Roads and Bridges.

The *Forêt Noire Road* was continued on a length of 270 feet, including a causeway 170 feet long, with side walls 5 to 10 feet high, and a wall 17 feet long and 2½ feet high built on each side. Three bridges were also built on this road.

Point La Rue Road was extended 1,486 feet, including a causeway 160 feet long and from 9 to 19 feet high, with side walls 2½ feet high.

North-east Road was extended 1,950 feet.

Water Works.

A reservoir was built at La Digue Island, and pipes laid down to supply the plateau with water which was very much needed.

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—

A new reservoir was built and pipes were laid supplying the northern suburb of the town of Victoria with water. The Rochou River reservoir was repaired, and many of the pipes supplying the town with water were cleaned.

Other Works.

Repairs were made to Denis Island Light House, two legs of the tripod were repaired, portions of the ladders replaced, &c.

A pavilion was built for the assistant keeper.

The roof of the Custom House shed was repaired, and repairs were made to the market.

The cutter "Wave" was recoppered and repaired, and repairs were made to the Port Office boats.

The Government House Bungalow was reshingled, and the verandah repaired and re-covered.

Important repairs were made to the buildings of the Quarantine Station, the roof being completely reshingled.

A new female prisoners sleeping ward was built, with suitable Matron's quarters, in the Victoria prison, and a working shed was built for the male prisoners.

The walls of the pier and coal wharf have been repaired and continued, and the south-east corner of the pier walled and filled in.

A building for the accommodation of untried prisoners has been erected in the police yard.

Various articles of furniture have been made for public offices, and repairs have been made for departments.

The Government school house was completed this year, and supplied with the necessary furniture.

The printing office has been enlarged, and a ceiling made to it, and various fittings supplied.

CROWN LANDS.

The Crown Lands are as stated in previous reports. No additions or changes have been made. The trees planted in previous years are thriving, and about 10,000 new seeds were planted during the year.

The post of Government Surveyor having been vacant during the greater part of the year, no surveying work could be performed. A property called Concession Lavoquier, reported to be covered with virgin forest, and which the conservator reports was never taken possession of by the original grantee, and has returned to the possession of the Crown, is exposed to encroachments by neighbours, and could not be sufficiently protected, because not surveyed; when a Government Surveyor is appointed, this work should be attended to without delay.

Some Coco de-Mer have been planted at Praslin and Curieuse, and timber seeds have been planted at La Digue.

The rent of Félicité has increased, and the revenue of Curieuse is daily increasing.

A special law has been passed for the protection of this valuable Island from depredators.

The Amirantes are not leased.

The Revenue and Expenditure of Crown lands during the year, including rent and produce, are reported by the Conservator to have been as follows:—

Name of Property.	Revenue.	
	Rs.	ct.
Messageries Coal Wharf	600	00
Admiralty Wharf	200	00
Fibre Factory	400	00
Ilot on Reef	50	00
Ilot Hodoul	250	00
Church Missionary Land		25
Capucin Land	156	00
Félicité Island	1,950	00
Ile Récifs	450	00
Mamèlles Island	50	00
Ile Ronde Praslin	4	00
Land alongside the Pier	160	00
Land between Factory and Sea	50	00
Amirantes	605	47
Plaisance and other lands	145	00
Long Island	352	68
Coco de Mer Ravine	175	00
Curieuse Island	2,959	00
Aldabra	600	00
Sea Way alongside the Pier	50	00
Total Rs.	9,207	40

Expenditure.

	Rs.
Plaisance, labourer	144
Long Island, guardian	192
Coco de Mer Ravine, guardian	144
Forest Ranger	360
Conservator of Crown Lands, &c.	1,200
Curieuse Island, overseer and labourers	600
Total Rs.	2,640

Police.

The strength of the police force in 1891 was 51 of all ranks, against 46 in 1890, namely:—

1 chief officer,
1 sergeant-major,
2 sergeants,
3 corporals,
10 first-class
10 second-class
19 third-class } constables,
5 boatmen

distributed over 9 stations, including the central station at Victoria.

MAURITIUS. SEYCHELLES.

The Police Reward Fund showed a balance of Rs. 958.24 on the 31st December 1891.

Detection and Repression of Crimes, &c.

The statistics of prosecutions and results are given under the heading *Judicial.*

The value of property alleged to have been stolen in 1891 is reported by the chief officer of Police to have been Rs. 792.40, against Rs. 4,893.89 in 1890, and the value of property recovered Rs. 225,40 against Rs. 327.28.

The total amount of fines inflicted in police prosecutions in 1891 was Rs. 8,378 as against Rs. 4,906.50 in 1890.

Liberated Africans and Labourers generally.

No liberated Africans or immigrants of any kind were introduced during 1891.

In the census of 1891 the number of members of the *African* population is returned as *1,754.*

It results from the report of the Inspector of liberated Africans that 293 Africans were employed as labourers on estates, as against 300 in 1890, 87 were under written, and 206 under verbal, contract.

The number of labourers of all classes reported as employed on wages on estates in 1891 is 882 against 719 in 1890. Of these, 89 were under written, and 793 under verbal, contract.

It results from the Inspector's report that 54 persons were registered for employment on the share system in 1891 as against 85 in 1890, and that of these 54, 39 were Africans and 15 Creoles.

From the same report it results that the total wages earned by labourers of all classes on estates in 1891 was Rs. 74,955.06 against Rs. 76,786.00, and that the total of forfeitures for absences, &c. was Rs. 11,401.01 against Rs. 7,023·71 in 1890.

The number of marriages of liberated Africans is reported to have been 15 as against 20 in 1890, and of offspring of Africans 8 against 16 in 1890.

Seventy-six births among liberated Africans are reported in 1891 as against 81 in 1890, and 29 deaths against 19 in 1890.

One hundred and thirty-seven liberated Africans are reported to have been convicted on police prosecutions for various offences in 1891 as against 94 in 1890.

LEGISLATURE.

The following Ordinances were passed by the Legislative Council in 1891:—

1. "An Ordinance to consolidate and amend the laws relating "to Vagrancy."

2. "An Ordinance to amend the law relating to the security of Notaries and Attornies and to regulate the custody of monies and other matters connected with the practice of Notaries."

3. "An Ordinance to provide for the service of the Seychelles Islands for the year 1891."

4. "An Ordinance to amend the law as to licenses in so far as it refers to the duty levied on licenses to be issued to Assurance Companies and their agents, and to distillers."

5. "An Ordinance to make better provision concerning the Promulgation of laws in the Seychelles Islands." (Disallowed.)

6. "An Ordinance to provide for the refund of Customs Duty paid on goods imported or purchased for the use of the Administrator of the Seychelles Islands."

7. "An Ordinance for regulating pensions, compensations, and allowances to be granted in respect of offices held in Her Majesty's Civil Service in the Seychelles Islands."

8. "An Ordinance to provide for the service of the Seychelles Islands for the year 1892."

(Signed) R. M. BROWN,
Acting Administrator.

14th May 1892.

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For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 40.

MAURITIUS
(SEYCHELLES AND RODRIGUES).

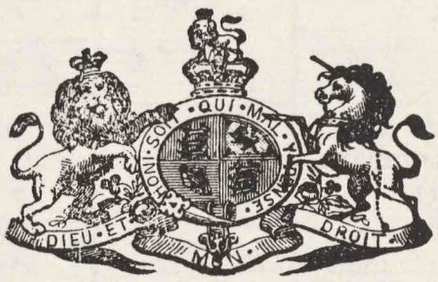
ANNUAL REPORTS FOR 1889 & 1890,

WITH A

REPORT ON THE ISLAND OF ALDABRA.

(For Reports for 1888, *see* Colonial Report No. 88, Old Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
May 1892.



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1892.

[C.—6563.–24.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
5	Newfoundland	1889
6	British New Guinea	1889–90
7	St. Vincent	1890
8	Bermuda	,,
9	Leeward Islands	1889
10	St. Lucia	1890
11	Bahamas	,,
12	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
13	Gibraltar	,,
14	Zululand	,,
15	Sierra Leone	,,
16	Barbados	,,
17	Falkland Islands	,,
18	Labuan	,,
19	British Honduras	,,
20	Basutoland	1890–91
21	Trinidad and Tobago	1890
22	Leeward Islands	,,
23	Grenada	,,
24	Straits Settlements	,,
25	British Guiana	,,
26	St. Helena	,,
27	Mauritius	,,
28	Gambia	,,
29	Hong Kong	,,
30	Ceylon	1889
31	Lagos	,,
32	Lagos	1890
33	Ceylon	,,
34	Newfoundland	,,
35	Jamaica	1889–91
36	Victoria	1890
37	British New Guinea	1890–91
38	St. Vincent	1891
39	Bermuda	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.

No. 40.

MAURITIUS

(SEYCHELLES AND RODRIGUES).

ANNUAL REPORTS FOR 1889 AND 1890.

No. 1.

Acting Administrator BROWN to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, Seychelles,
February 15, 1892.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward direct one copy of each of Blue Book Reports for 1889 and 1890, which your Lordship had expressed a desire to receive at an early date.

I have further the honour to enclose copy of my Despatch to the Governor covering duplicate copies.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. M. BROWN,
Acting Administrator.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.,
Secretary of State for the Colonies.

REPORT ON THE SEYCHELLES BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1889.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The revenue of the year 1889 amounted to Rs. 208,967 against Rs. 200,095.56 in the preceding year, and the expenditure was Rs. 195,550.12 against Rs. 188,715.78 in the year 1888.

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MAURITIUS.

SEYCHELLES

The following is a comparative statement of the principal heads of receipts in the years 1888 and 1889:—

	1888.	1889.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Import duties - - -	106,325 71	121,941 19
Licenses - - - -	24,072 50	24,017 50
Local rate - - - -	28,849 71	28,707 06
Fines, fees, and forfeitures of court	7,067 73	4,354 23
Registration - - -	7,906 56	9,525 92
Mortgage - - - -	1,226 54	968 30
Rum duty - - - -	7,002 24	3,746 74
Stamps - - - -	3,493 00	3,376 00

	Rs.
Total revenue - - - -	208,967
Total expenditure - - - -	195,550
Balance in favour of revenue - -	13,417

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS.

The exports, exclusive of specie, amounted to Rs. 653,102.37 against Rs. 529,675.18 in the preceding year, showing an increase of Rs. 123,427.19. This is mainly attributable to the increased exportation of vanilla during 1889.

Imports.

The imports show a total of Rs. 570,989.55 against Rs. 568,289.82 in 1888, showing an increase of Rs. 2,699.73. Such increase is mainly due to increased importation of coals, building materials, coffee, and cotton stuffs.

Assets and Liabilities.

The assets of the Dependency on the 31st December, according to a statement of the Treasurer duly audited, amounted to Rs. 79,748.40.

The liabilities amounted to Rs. 80,998.17, showing a balance of Rs. 1,249.97 against the Dependency.

SHIPPING.

Eighty vessels manned by 8,086 men, including mail steamers and men-of-war, with an aggregate tonnage of 168,325 tons, entered the Port of Victoria, during the year, namely:—

	Tons.
13 men-of-war - - - -	25,700
36 mail steamers - - -	133,674
31 merchant vessels other than mail steamers - - -	9,051

Of the men-of-war—

9 were British.
2 were German.
1 was French.
1 was Austrian.

Of the merchant vessels—

30 were British.
37 were French (including mail steamers).

POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS.

The number of births registered in the Dependency during the year 1889 was 508, namely:—

	General Population.		African Population.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Legitimate - - - - -	174	157	25	21
Natural acknowledged - - -	9	7	0	0
Natural - - - - -	59	51	5	0
	242	215	30	21

The birth rate per 1,000 was 31·709 as against 32·40 in 1888.

The rate of still-births per 1,000 was 1·997 as against 2·21 in 1888.

The number of deaths registered during the year was 368, the rate per 1,000 being 22·970 as against 17·10 in 1888.

There were 155 marriages celebrated in 1889 as against 173 in 1888.

EDUCATION.

In 1889 there were 25 schools aided by the Government grants, attended by 1,733 children, against 24 schools in 1888 attended by 1,729 children.

Eighteen schools with 1,349 pupils were under the control of the Roman Catholic Mission, and seven schools with 384 pupils were managed by the civil chaplain and the Church Missionary Society.

The sum voted in 1889 for grants in aid was Rs. 8,000, the same amount as in 1888.

It was apportioned as follows, viz.:—

	Rs.	c.
Roman Catholic schools - -	6,038	78
Church of England schools - -	1,781	41
Church Mission school at Capucin -	179	81

MAURITIUS.

SEYCHELLES.

JUDICIAL.

Criminal Side.

The total number of criminal informations filed in 1889 was 578, as against 859 reported for 1888. Out of the 578 informations filed, 531 were adjudicated upon, as against 796 in 1888; the number of informations in which no further action was taken, or which were not adjudicated upon within the year, were 47 as against 63 in 1888.

There were 452 persons convicted as against 778 in 1888.

The decrease was noticeable chiefly in cases of

Disturbance, for which 135 persons were convicted in 1889 as against 221 in 1888;

Drunkenness, for which 104 persons were convicted as against 130 in 1888;

Breach of license law, of which only two persons were convicted in 1889 as against 63 in 1888; Breach of laws for the repression of larcenies of produce for which there were 24 convictions in 1889 as against 59 in 1888, larceny and possession of stolen property for which there were 50 persons convicted in 1889 as against 87 in 1888; Breaches of the fishery laws, for which three persons only were convicted in 1889 as against 54 in 1888.

There were no cases of murder or manslaughter in 1889 as in 1888. The most serious offences were rape, swindling, wounds and blows, assaulting police, embezzlement, larcenies, adultery, defamation and slander, perjury and forgery.

Civil Side.

The number of civil cases entered in 1889 was 126 as against 200 in 1888.

Stipendiary Side.

Sixty-six persons were charged in the Stipendiary Court as against 167 in 1888. 44 persons were *convicted* as against 166 in 1888.

There were five convictions for non-production of tickets against 85 in 1888.

The engagements and discharges before the stipendiary magistrate were as follows:—

	1889.	1888.
Engagements - - - -	66	58
Discharges - - - - -	56	54

The total number of cases of all jurisdictions entered before the Courts in 1888 and 1889 stands as follows:—

	1888.	1889.
Criminal - - - - -	859	578
Civil - - - - - -	200	126
Stipendiary - - - - -	144	47
Total - - -	1,203	751
Decrease - - -	452 cases.	

There were four appeals from decisions of the Court of Seychelles in 1889, all four were dismissed.

Gaol.

252 persons were committed to gaol in 1889 as against 472 in 1888. Of these 23 were sentenced to one year or more as against 15 in 1888, the remainder being sentenced to less than one year.

In 1889 as in 1888 there were no deaths in the prison.

HOSPITAL.

The number of persons treated in the public hospital in 1889 was 259 against 228 in 1888, as follows:—

	1888.	1889.
Paupers - - - -	55	60
Prisoners - - - - -	86	93
Paying patients - - - -	87	106
Total - - - -	228	259

Of these 259 persons—

196 were discharged as cured.
36 „ „ relieved.
2 „ „ unrelieved.
4 „ „ malingering.
9 died.
12 remained in hospital at the end of the year.

259

MAURITIUS.
SEYCHELLES.

The principal ailments were measles (in the beginning of the year), dysentery, fever, anæmia, venereal diseases, rheumatism, wounds.

DISPENSARY.

The number of applications for medicines at the public dispensary was 5,365 against 5,169 in 1888.

VACCINATION.

253 children were vaccinated at the Public Hospital and 63 at the outlying station of Mahé. In the Praslin ward there were 48 vaccinations, making a total for the Dependency of 301, as against 547 in 1888.

LEPER CAMP.

There were seven lepers maintained in the leper camp of Curieuse Island during the year, namely;—

Males	5
Females	2

PAUPER CAMP.

Eleven aged paupers were maintained in the pauper camp at Curieuse Island during the year.

LUNACY.

There were five lunatics maintained at the expense of the Seychelles Government at the Mauritius Lunatic Asylum during the year.

Of these five were declared lunatics during the year.

ECCLESIASTICAL.

The census taken in 1881 does not show separately the number of adherents of each Church.

The number of ministers employed in 1888 was as follows:—

Church of England.

Civil chaplain	1
Minister for South Mahé	1
Minister for Praslin	1
Evangelists and catechists	12
Total	15

Roman Catholic Church.

Bishop	1
Priests in holy orders	13
Lay Brothers, Capucin	4
Lay Brothers, Marists	7
Sisters of St. Joseph de Cluny	37
Total	62

CHURCHES AND CHAPELS.

Church of England.

Churches	2
Chapels also used as schools	7
Total	9

Roman Catholic Church.

Churches	12
Chapels	7
Total	19

PUBLIC WORKS.

Extension of Roads and Bridges.

North-east Road.—700 feet of road were opened on a width of 16 feet, including an embankment 200 feet long, with dry stone side walls from 5 to 8 feet in height.

Seven masonry bridges were built to replace rotten timber bridges, or across streams not bridged over before. These bridges involved the building of retaining walls on a length of 350 feet.

Anse La Mouche and Anse Poules Bleues.

Six bridges were built on the road from Anse Poules Bleues to Baie Lazarre, the spans varying from 6 to 12 feet. These bridges were built with masonry abutments and Capucin timber.

2,000 feet of road were opened at Anse La Mouche.

Anse aux Pins.—A bridge 82 feet long and 14 feet wide was built over the Mare Cayolle.

Forêt Noire Road.—3,237 feet of road were made, on a width of about 8 feet, from where the road was left off last year o the bridge on River Tanguin.

850 feet were also cut on the other side of the river, but the road is there in an incomplete state and not joined to the finished portion.

South Road.—486 feet of road were made on a width of 17 feet, including a causeway 200 feet long with side walls 4 feet high.

Port Gland.—A causeway 14 feet wide and of an average depth of 4 feet was built on a length of 304 feet.

Maintenance of Roads and Bridges.

The road from Anse Boileau to Baie Lazare was cleaned on a length of 2,200 feet. The road from Anse Boileau to town (Misère Road) was cleaned on a length of 48,000 feet.

The same road was repaired, drains opened, &c. on a length of 8,000 feet.

The road from Pointe Larne to Anse Forbans was cleaned on a length of 37,000 feet. This work was done in the first days of January 1890

The "Canelles" road, leading from Anse Boileau to Anse La Mouche, was cleaned, drains opened, &c.

The South Road, North-east Road, and Forêt Noire Road were cleaned and kept in fair order.

Timber bridges on all the roads were repaired. Our old ones on the South Road were replaced by masonry culverts, and a masonry arch bridge 14 feet span was erected in Malakoff Street in town.

The causeway joining the police station to the Roman Catholic church, which had been to a large extent destroyed by a flood at the beginning of the year, was thoroughly repaired, and two bridges which had been carried away replaced.

Coal Wharf.

The central portion of the wharf was raised about 18 inches on an area of 1,800 square yards. The granite side walls were repaired and raised to the same height on a length of 640 feet, and the wall was built on a length of 55 feet where it did not exist before.

Completion of Landing Warehouse.

A new landing warehouse alongside the pier was completed. The old warehouse was pulled down and rebuilt to the same height and breadth as the new one.

The building is now 79 feet long, 26 broad, and 12 feet high.

GAOL.

A small house, 13 feet × 10 feet, with barred windows, was erected at Curieuse for a leper prison.

CROWN LANDS.

No noticeable changes in connexion with Crown Lands took place in 1889.

The work of reforestation received attention during the year. Seeds of valuable timber trees were planted, and the young timber plants of the previous years were looked after and have thriven. The Coco de Mer valley at Praslin was looked after, a large number of nuts having been planted.

The produce of Curieuse and Félicité Islands considerably increased during the year, owing to many of the young cocoanut trees having commenced to bear fruit.

The following is Conservator of Crown lands' valuation of the produce of the property under his charge for the year 1889, including rent of property leased, and produce whether sold, supplied to departments, or utilised for reforestation, &c.

Revenue of Crown Lands for the Year 1889.

Name of Property.	Revenue.	
	Rs.	ct.
Church Missionary Society		50
Coal Wharf	200	00
Messageries Wharf	600	00
Ilot on Reefs	50	00
Ilot Hodoul	210	00
Félicité Island	1,080	00
Ile Récifs	666	00
Mamelles Island	40	00
Ile ronde of Praslin	4	00
Right end side of Victoria Pier	40	00
Fibre Factory	400	00
Land between Factory and Sea	50	00
Amirantes Islands	553	00
Long Island	155	00
Coco de Mer Ravine	260	00
Curieuse Island	2,300	57
Sea Way New Oriental Bank	50	00
Sea Way alongside the Pier	160	00
Sea frontage along Victoria Pier	160	00
	6,979	07

The expenditure for Crown Lands for 1889 is stated as follows:—

	Rs.
Forest lands in Mahé	240
Long Island Guardian	192
Guardian and Labourers, Curieuse	467
Coco de Mer Ravine Guardian	144
Forest Ranger	360
Conservator of Crown Lands, &c.	1,200
	2,603

MAURITIUS.

SEYCHELLES.

Police.

The strength of the police force in 1890, as in 1889, was 46 of all ranks, including 1 chief officer, 1 sergeant-major, 2 sergeants, 3 corporals, 10 first class, 10 second class, 14 third class, and 5 boatmen constables, distributed over 9 stations, including the central station at Victoria.

The Police Reward Fund showed a balance of Rs. 418.03 on the 31st December 1889.

There were 19 reports against constables for misconduct during the year.

Detection and Repression of Crimes, &c.

The number of persons prosecuted by the police in 1889 was 512, of whom 439 were convicted and 73 acquitted.

The value of property alleged to have been stolen in 1889 was Rs. 373.56, and the amount recovered Rs. 210.56, as agains Rs. 3,081.90 stolen and Rs. 1,284.83 recovered in 1888.

The total amount of fines inflicted in police prosecutions in 1889 was Rs. 2,926 as against Rs. 9,972 in 1888.

Liberated Africans and Labourers generally.

No liberated Africans or immigrants of any kind were introduced during the year 1889. The last liberated Africans were introduced in 1874.

The actual number of liberated Africans in Seychelles in 1889 cannot be stated with accuracy. The number in 1881 according to the census was 1,817.

It results from the Acting Inspector of liberated Africans' report that 363 Africans were employed on estates during 1889 against 313 in 1888, namely:—

In 1889—	
Under written contract - - -	85
Under verbal contract - - -	278
Total - - -	363
In 1888—	
Under written contract - - -	105
Under verbal contract - - -	208
Total - - -	313

The number of labourers of all classes reported to have been employed on estates in 1889 was 895 as against 819 in 1888.

The total of wages earned by labourers employed on estates in 1889, was according to the Acting Inspector's report, Rs. 72,005.70 as against Rs. 59,405.05 earned in 1888, and the

total amount of wages lost by labourers through absences, sickness, &c., was Rs. 10,770.76 in 1889 as against Rs. 9,084.51 in 1888.

173 labourers are reported to have been employed on estates on the *share* system under Regulation 3 of 1888, of whom 98 were Africans.

There were no prosecutions by the Inspector of liberated Africans against masters or servants in 1889. There were none in 1888.

The number of marriages of liberated Africans in 1889 is reported to have been 30 against 12 in 1888, and of African creoles (*i.e.*, offspring of liberated Africans) 14 against nine in 1888.

There were 51 births among the African population in 1889 against 82 in 1888, and 21 deaths against 26 in 1888.

Eighty-seven liberated Africans were convicted on police prosecution for various offences in 1889 against 246 in 1888.

LEGISLATION

The following Regulations were passed by the Board of Civil Commissioners in 1889 :—

1. An amended Regulation—"To make better provision for "the repression and detection of larcenies of vanilla and other "produce."

2. A Regulation—"To consolidate and amend the laws relating "to prisons."

N.B.—This Regulation was not forwarded for approval. An Ordinance has since been introduced into the Legislative Council embodying its principal provisions.

The following Ordinances were passed by the Legislative Council :—

1. "An Ordinance to confer upon members of the Legislative "Council all the powers, rights, and privileges vested in members "of the Board of Civil Commissioners by any laws or proclama-"tions in force in the Seychelles Islands."

2. "An Ordinance to provide for the service of the Seychelles "Islands for the year 1889."

3. "An Ordinance to amend Regulation 1 of 1888."

4. "An Ordinance to exempt the Administrator from the "payment of Customs Duties."

5. "An Ordinance to transfer the duties of stamp officer from "the District Clerk to the Postmaster."

6. "An Ordinance to regulate the practice of medicine, surgery, "and midwifery in the Seychelles Islands."

7. "An Ordinance to provide for the service of the Seychelles "Islands for the year 1890."

(Signed) R. M. BROWN,
15th February 1892. Acting Administrator.

MAURITIUS.

SEYCHELLES.

REPORT ON THE SEYCHELLES BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1890.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The revenue of the year 1890 amounted to Rs. 224,16.37 against Rs. 208,967.12 in 1889. The expenditure was Rs. 219,393.46 against Rs. 195,550.12 in 1889.

The following is a comparative statement of the heads of receipts in the years 1889 and 1890 :—

	1889.		1890.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Import duties - - -	121,949	19	122,285	04
Licenses - - - -	24,017	50	24,808	50
Local rate - - - -	28,767	16	29,749	42
Fines, fees of court or office -	4,354	23	6,661	28
Registration - -	9,525	92	9,265	02
Mortgage - - - -	968	30	1,040	85
Stamps - - - -	3,376	00	3,791	46
Rum duty - - - -	3,746	74	6,109	38
Total revenue - - - -			224,169	37
Total expenditure - - - -			219,393	46
Balance in favour of revenue - -			4,775	91

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS.

Exports.

The exports, exclusive of specie, amounted to Rs. 620,578.80 against Rs. 653,102.37 in the preceding year, showing a decrease of Rs. 32,525.57. This is mainly attributable to a decrease in the exportation of vanilla in 1890.

Imports.

The imports show a total of Rs. 657,512.20 against Rs. 570,989.55 in 1889, showing an increase of Rs. 86,522.65. This increase is mainly due to an increased importation of coals, building materials, and cotton stuffs.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

The assets of the Dependency on the 31st December, according to a statement from the Treasurer duly audited, amounted to Rs. 85,314.32.

The liabilities amounted to Rs. 72,801.36, showing a balance in favour of assets of Rs. 12,512.96.

SHIPPING.

Eighty-eight vessels manned by 13,966 men and of an aggregate tonnage of 192,994 tons entered the Port of Victoria in 1890, namely :—

		Tons.
25	men-of-war - - - -	40,651
36	mail steamers - - -	141,597
27	merchant vessels other than mail steamers - - - -	10,746
88	Total - - -	192,994

Of the men-of-war—

21 were British.
2 were French.
1 was Italian.
1 was German.

25

Of the merchant vessels—

24 were British.
1 was Norwegian.
1 was American.
1 was Dutch.
36 were French (mail steamers).

POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS.

The number of births registered in the Dependency was 623 as against 508 in 1889, namely ;—

	General Population.		African Population.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Legitimate - - - - -	210	201	24	33
Natural acknowledged - - -	20	13	13	0
Natural - - - - -	57	52	5	5
	287	266	32	38

Taking the population to be 16,021, as found at the census of 1881, the birth rate per 1,000 was 44·24 as against 31,709 in 1889 ; the rate of still-births 4·26 per 1000 as against 1·997 in 1889.

The number of deaths registered during the year was 257 as against 368 in 1889, and the death rate 18·25 per 1,000 against 22·970 in 1889.

There were 187 marriages against 155 in 1889.

EDUCATION.

In 1890 there were 24 schools aided by Government grants attended by 1,844 children, against 25 schools in 1889 attended by 1,733 children.

Eighteen schools with 1,498 pupils were under the control of the Roman Catholic Mission, and six schools with 346 pupils were managed by the civil chaplain and the Church Missionary Society.

The sum voted in 1890 for grants in aid was Rs. 8,000, the same amount as in 1889.

It was apportioned as follows, viz.:—

	Rs.	c.
Roman Catholic schools - -	6,122	84
Church of England schools - -	1,718	04
Church Mission school at Capucin -	159	12

JUDICIAL.

Criminal Side.

The total number of criminal informations filed in 1890 was 643 against 578 in 1889. Of the 643, 498 were filed by the police and 145 by private parties.

637 cases were adjudicated upon against 531 in 1889, six cases were not adjudicated upon or not pressed to conclusion as against 47 in 1889.

845 persons were charged in 1890, 673 by the police and 172 by parties, as against 675 in 1889.

There were 531 convictions in 1890 (462 upon police prosecution and 69 on prosecution by parties), as against 452 in 1889.

As in preceding years, the most numerous offences were drunkenness and disturbance, there being 112 convictions for drunkenness as against 104 in 1889, and 174 convictions for disturbance as against 135 in 1889.

There were 314 persons prosecuted for disturbance of which 140 were acquitted.

57 persons were charged with larceny as against 74 in 1889, and there were 35 convictions as against 50 in 1889.

Of the 57 persons charged with larceny there were 23 charged with larceny of agricultural produce. Of these 16 were convicted.

On the other hand, there were 67 persons prosecuted for breach of the special law for repression of larcenies of produce, resulting in 56 convictions, against 47 persons prosecuted under the old law, and 23 convictions, in 1889.

There was one prosecution for infanticide, which did not result in a commitment for trial; the accused was subsequently prosecuted and convicted for concealment of birth.

The most serious offences this year were burglary, wounds and blows, concealment of birth, defamation, embezzlement, escape of prisoners, facilitating escape of prisoners, attempt upon chastity, bestiality.

Civil Side.

The number of civil cases was 147 as against 126 in 1889, showing an increase of 21 cases; in addition to which there were 41 matters dealt with in chambers.

Stipendiary Side

There were 65 persons charged in the Stipendiary Court against 66 in 1889, and 40 convictions against 44 in 1889.

The engagements and discharges before the Stipendiary Magistrate were as follows:—

	1890.	1889.
Engagements - - - - -	168	66
Discharges - - - - - -	57	56

showing an increase in the number of labourers entering into written contracts of service of 60 in favour of 1890.

The total number of cases in all jurisdictions entered before the Courts in 1889 and 1890 respectively stands as follows:—

	1889.	1890.
Criminal - - - - - -	643	578
Civil - - - - - - -	147	126
Stipendiary - - - - - -	65	47
Total - - - - -	855	751

Increase of 1890 over 1889 - - 104 cases.

There, in 1890, were three appeals, namely, one from a conviction and two from decisions in civil matters. All three were dismissed.

GAOL.

Three hundred and fourteen persons were committed to gaol in 1890 as against 252 in 1889. Of these three were sentenced to five years or more and 13 to one year or more, the remainder being sentenced to less than one year.

In 1890, as in 1889, there were no deaths in the prison.

MAURITIUS.

SEYCHELLES.

HOSPITAL

The number of persons treated in the public hospital in 1890 was 170 against 259 in 1889, showing a decrease of 89.

There were as follows:—

	1889.	1890.
Paupers - - - - -	60	43
Prisoners - - - -	93	50
Paying patients - - - -	106	77
Total - - - -	259	170

Of these 170 persons—

113 were discharged as cured.
30 „ „ relieved.
5 „ „ unrelieved.
9 died.
13 were still in hospital at the end of the year.

The principal ailments were anæmia, dysentery, hernia, rheumatism, phthisis, syphilis, vulnus, ulcers, veruls.

There were 6,349 applications for medicines at the public dispensary in 1890 against 5,365 in 1889.

The vaccinations by the Government medical officers in 1890 were 311 at Mahé and 61 in the Praslin ward, in all 372.

Leprosy Camp.

There were seven lepers maintained in the leper camp on Curieuse Island during the year, namely:—

Males - - - - -	5
Females - - - - -	2
Total - - -	7

Pauper Camp.

Twelve aged paupers were maintained in the pauper camp at Curieuse during the year.

Lunacy.

There were nine lunatics maintained at the expense of the Seychelles Government at the Mauritius Lunatic Asylum during the year. Of these four were declared lunatics during the year.

MAURITIUS.

SEYCHELLES.

ECCLESIASTICAL.

As stated in previous reports, the number of adherents of the two Churches supported by the Government in Seychelles is not shown separately from those of other Dependencies in the returns of the census taken in 1881.

The following number of ministers were employed in 1890:—

Church of England.

Civil chaplain	1
Minister for Mahé	1
Minister for Praslin	1
Evangelists and catechists	10
Total	13

Roman Catholic.

Priests	13
Lay Brothers of the Capucin order	4
Marists Brothers	7
Sisters of St. Joseph	45
Total	69

CHURCHES AND CHAPELS.

Church of England.

Churches	3
Chapels	8
Total	11

Roman Catholics.

Churches	12
Chapels	6
Total	18

MAURITIUS.

SEYCHELLES.

POLICE.

The strength of the police force in 1890 was 46 of all ranks, as in 1889, namely:—

1 chief officer of police,
1 sergeant-major,
2 sergeants,
3 corporals,
10 first-class constables,
10 second-class constables,
14 third-class constables,
5 boatmen constables,

distributed over nine stations, including the central station at Victoria.

The Police Reward Fund showed a balance of Rs. 819.27 on the 31st December 1890.

Detection and Repression of Crimes, &c.

The number of persons prosecuted by the police in 1890 was 673 against 512 in 1889. Of these 462 were convicted and 211 were acquitted.

The value of property alleged to have been stolen in 1890 was Rs. 4,893.89 against Rs. 373 in 1889, and the value of property recovered Rs. 327.28 against Rs. 210.56.

The total amount of fines inflicted in police prosecutions in 1890 was Rs. 4,906.50 as against Rs. 2,926 in 1889.

Liberated Africans and Labourers generally.

No liberated Africans or immigrants of any kind were introduced during 1890.

It results from the report of the inspector of liberated Africans that 300 Africans were employed as labourers on estates as against 363 in 1889. Of these 92 were under written and 208 under verbal contract

The number of labourers of all classes reported as employed on wages on estates in 1890 is 718 against 895 in 1889. Of these 95 were under written and 613 under verbal contract.

It results from the inspector's report that 85 persons were registered for employment on the share system in 1890 as against 173 in 1889, and that of these 173, 62 were Africans and 23 Creoles.

From the same report it results that the total wages earned by labourers of all classes on estates in 1890 was Rs. 76 786.00 against Rs. 72,005.70 in 1889, and that the total of forfeitures for absences, &c. was Rs. 7,023.71 against Rs. 10,770.76 in 1889.

The number of marriages of liberated Africans is reported to have been 20 as against 30 in 1889, and of offspring of African 16 against 14 in 1889.

Eighty-one births among liberated Africans are reported in 1890 as against 51 in 1889, and 19 deaths against 21 in 1889.

Ninety-four liberated Africans were convicted on police prosecutions for various offences in 1890 as against 87 in 1889.

LEGISLATION.

The following Ordinances were passed by the Legislative Council in 1890:—

1. "An Ordinance to reorganise the Board of Health for the "Seychelles Islands and to regulate its powers and duties."

2. "An Ordinance to amend the law concerning penalties."

3. "An Ordinance to confer certain powers upon the Registrar "of the Court of Seychelles."

4. "An Ordinance to confer upon the Conservator of Mortgages "for the Seychelles Islands the custody of all papers, title deeds, "maps, plans, minutes, registers and memoranda of survey relating "to immovable property situate in these Islands."

5. "An Ordinance to empower the Administrator in Executive "Council to fix rates chargeable for postage and post office money "orders."

6. "An Ordinance to amend Mauritius Proclamation No. 36 of "1877 extending to the Seychelles Islands with certain modifications Ordinance No. 19 of 1868 (Mauritius), which is "An "Ordinance to repeal certain provisions of the Code of Civil Procedure, of the Civil Code, and of the Colonial Ordinances relative "to sales of immovable properties.'"

7. "An Ordinance to remove doubts as to the extent of the "powers of the Court of Seychelles under Mauritius Ordinance 16 "of 1869."

8. "An Ordinance to invest the Conservator of Mortgages of the "Seychelles with the powers and duties of Receiver of Registration "Dues."

9 "An Ordinance to provide for the summary punishment of "persons committing perjury in connexion with proceedings "before the Court of Seychelles."

10. "An Ordinance to repeal certain clauses of Regulation 3 of "1872 of the Seychelles Board of Civil Commissioners (for the "establishment of a public hospital at Port Victoria) and to make "other provision in lieu thereof."

11. "An Ordinance to compel notaries practising in the Seychelles Islands to keep double minutes of deeds drawn up by "them, and to make better provision for the custody of such "minutes and for the transcription of certain deeds."

12. "An Ordinance to empower the Court of Seychelles to issue "injunctions in certain cases, and to grant provisional execution "pending decision on appeal."

13. "An Ordinance to prohibit the keeping of pigs in the town "of Victoria within certain limits."

MAURITIUS.

SEYCHELLES.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Extension of Roads and Bridges.

North-east Road.—200 feet of road were opened on a width of 16 feet. The bridge on Caiman river was pulled down and rebuilt in masonry with parapets 3 feet high on each side.

Forêt Noire Road.—1,560 feet of road were made on a width of 8 feet.

South Road.—540 feet of road were made with a deep cutting across the mountain and side walls in some places from 3 to 4 feet high.

Maintenance of Roads and Bridges.—North-west Bay and Bel-ombre roads were cleaned as well as roads from Barbaron to Port Gland, Anse Boileau to Takamaka 39,600 feet. Anse la Mouche to Anse Royale 10,500 feet. Pointe Larne to Petit Paris 17,000 feet.

Repairs were made to bridges at Praslin and La Digne, and six bridges were repaired in town.

CROWN LANDS.

The boundaries of several portions of the Crown lands were settled during this year by the Government surveyor.

The plantations of young timber trees were increased during the year.

The following is the Conservator's valuation of the revenue of the various Crown lands and of the current expenditure during the year:

Revenue of Crown Lands for the Year 1890.

Name of Property.	Revenue.	
	Rs.	ct.
Messageries Coal Wharf	600	00
Admiralty Wharf	200	00
Fibre Factory	400	00
Ilot on Reefs	50	00
Ilot Hodoul	250	00
Capucin Land	400	00
Félicité Island	1,960	00
Church Missionary Society	00	50
Ile Récifs	666	00
Mamelles Island	50	00
Ile ronde of Praslin	4	00
Right end side of the Pier	40	00
Land alongside the Pier	160	00
Sea frontage alongside the Pier	160	00
Land between Factory and Sea	50	00
Amirantes Islands	399	83
Plaisance	40	00
Long Island	179	50
Coco De Mer Ravine	85	00
Curieuse Island	1,771	55
Anse Lagio	15	00
Aldabra Island	1,783	82
Total	9,265	20

The expenditure for Crown lands for 1890 is stated as follow:—

	Rs.	ct.
Plaisance Guardian - - -	120	00
Long Island Guardian - - -	19	00
Coco De Mer Ravine Guardian -	144	00
Curieuse Island Guardian and labourers -	624	00
Conservator of Crown Lands -	1,200	00
Forest Ranger - - - -	360	00
Total -	2,640	00

R. M. BROWN,
Acting Administrator.

15th February 1892.

MAURITIUS.

RODRIGUES.

No. 2.

REPORT ON THE RODRIGUES BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1889.

Civil Commissioner's Office, Rodrigues,
March 28, 1890.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Blue Book report on this island for the year 1889.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. CLAN. O'HALLORAN,
Civil Commissioner and
Police Magistrate.

The Hon.
The Colonial Secretary,
Mauritius.

I.—TAXATION.

The only change made in the taxation of the island during the past year was the reduction from 1st January 1889 of the dog tax from Rs. 2.50 to Rs. 1.50; but by Ordinance No. 43 of 1888 a surtax of 5 per cent. was levied on the usual tax on horses and dogs and by Ordinance No. 41 of 1888 a stamp of four cents was imposed on all receipts for Rs. 10 and upwards during the year 1889.

II.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

	Rs.	c.
The revenue of 1889, exclusive of Customs collected in Mauritius, was - - - -	5,297	52
Showing a decrease of -	5,071	74
On the revenue of 1888, which was -	10,369	26
The expenditure of 1889, exclusive of payments made in Mauritius, was - - - -	18,421	58
Showing a decrease of - -	1,184	74
As compared with expenditure of 1888, which amounted to - -	19,606	32

The principal heads of revenue were land rent, pasturage, and licenses. Land rent was reduced to Rs. 2, pasturage for goats to 15c., and dog tax to Rs. 1.25.

The rate of revenue per head of population in 1889 was Rs. 2.67 and the rate of expenditure Rs. 9.31 against Rs 5.38 and Rs. 10.19 in 1888.

III.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

Offences for which prosecutions took place in 1889 numbered 57, being an increase of eight on the year 1888. There was an increase of five in the number of persons brought before the Courts in 1889 over the previous year. Of 49 persons brought before the police court on various charges, 34 were convicted, while seven out of nine charged before the Stipendiary Court were sentenced. The offenders comprised two Americans, one European, 52 Creoles (of Mauritius and Rodrigues), two Indians, and one Malagasy.

The most serious charges were two cases of larceny, two of possession of stolen property, one of swindling, and two of wounds and blows.

The number of civil cases amounted to 69 as against 143 in 1888.

IV.—PRISONS.

Twenty-one prisoners were committed during 1889 as compared with 31 in 1888.

	1888.	1889.
For non-payment of fines and costs - -	3	3
„ safe custody until trial - - -	10	6
„ various terms of imprisonment - -	18	10
„ debt under Ordinance 16 of 1879 - -	—	2
Total - -	31	21

The chief officer of police is the keeper of the gaol, the constables acting as prison guards.

No offences were committed in the prison and no escapes took place in 1889.

V.—POST OFFICE.

The revenue derived from this source during 1889 stands at Rs. 203.26, being an increase of Rs. 91.20 on year 1888.

Money orders drawn on Mauritius amounted to Rs. 17,644.95, being an increase of Rs. 9,866.57 on previous year. Orders were drawn on Rodrigues to the value of Rs. 711.00, a decrease of Rs. 196.93 over year 1888.

MAURITIUS.

RODRIGUES.

In 1889 there was a decrease of 404 letters, and an increase of 572 newspapers received at the Post Office, and an increase of 499 letters despatched as compared with 1888.

VI.—PUBLIC WORKS.

Rs. 1446.43 was expended on works (including sanitary) and buildings, versus Rs. 1569.55 in 1888. The following were the principal works:—

A wooden building was purchased for Rs. 500 to serve as a police station, and Rs. 235.00 were expended in converting the old police station and lock-up into a prison.

The roofs of the quarters of the Government Medical Officer and the police station, Mont Lubin, were recovered with latanier leaves, as well as a new kitchen erected at the latter place at a total cost of Rs. 108.00, while a new kitchen at St. Gabriel School cost Rs. 35.00.

A stone jetty was built at a cost of Rs. 82.50 to replace the old wooden one, which was rotten. The roads were repaired as required at a cost of Rs. 408.00.

Repairs to boats and Government buildings, excluding painting, were executed as required at a cost of Rs. 313.99 against Rs. 119.00 in 1888. Painting public buildings and boats cost Rs. 57.00.

VII.—POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS.

The population of this Dependency on the 31st December 1889 was 1,978, an increase of 54 souls.

Population on 31st December 1888			1,924
Total births, 1889	91		
„ arrivals „	35		
	—126		
Less deaths, „	33		
„ departures, „	39		
	— 72		
Increase in 1889			54
Population on 31st December 1889			1,978

Estimation of numbers employed at various callings and those unemployed:—

Government servants	19
Traders	9
Agriculturists	1,000
Artizans	13
Fishermen	300
Other callings	150
Unemployed, aged people, and young children	487
	1,978

There were 23 marriages and one still-birth in 1889 against 23 marriages and one still-birth in 1888.

There was an increase of one in the mortality of 1889 over 1888, 23 being infants and young children under six years of age.

One marriage *in articulo mortis* was celebrated.

VIII.—LEGISLATION.

During 1889 no special laws were enacted by the Legislative Council of Mauritius for this island, but Ordinance No. 43 of 1888, for levying during the year 1889 a surtax of 5 per cent. on animals and licenses, changing to a fixed duty the ad valorem duty on salt and matches, and increasing by 5 per cent. Custom duty on all goods; and Ordinance 41 of 1888 imposing a stamp of 4 cents on all receipts for Rs. 10 and upwards was (made) applicable to this island.

Ordinance No. 34 of 1888 to exempt from Custom dues tobacco grown in Rodrigues.

Ordinance No. 35 of 1888.—To reduce certain dues payable in the Island of Rodrigues.

Ordinance No. 36 of 1888.—To empower the Civil Commissioner to accept payment in kind of taxes and other sums due to the Crown.

Ordinance No. 39 of 1888.—To empower the Governor to order the removal and detention in the Island of Rodrigues of prisoners detained in the Central Prison, -were passed by the Council of Government of Mauritius on 13th December 1888 and came into force in this island in January 1889.

Ordinance No. 5 of 1889 was enacted to confer powers on the Commissioners sent to hold an inquiry regarding charges brought against the Civil Commissioner of Rodrigues and Capt. Cadier (master of the ship subsidised by the Government for transport of mails) by the Hon. E. Antelme, one of the elected members of the Council of Government.

IX.—EDUCATION.

The Government schools at Port Mathurin and St. Gabriel were the only schools existing during the year.

At the Port Mathurin School the average number on roll was 58 and average attendance 49, against 54 and 47 in 1888.

At the St. Gabriel School the roll number was 87 and average attendance 58, versus 60 and 40 in 1888.

The cost of the Port Mathurin School was Rs. 2,095.92, and school fees received Rs. 98.25, while in 1888 it was Rs. 1,995.96 and fees received Rs. 97.52.

The St. Gabriel School cost Rs. 1,140.00, the same amount as in 1888. No fees are charged at this school.

The annual cost to Government of each pupil at both schools was Rs. 21.63 against Rs. 36.65 in 1888.

MAURITIUS.

RODRIGUES.

On December 19th, 1889, the scholars of the Port Mathurin School were examined at special request of the Civil Commissioner by the Rev. Père Jauny, curé of Rodrigues, and Mr. Darius Julien, Government schoolmaster of Mauritius, on leave in this island. 36 pupils were presented for examination, of whom 18 passed.

On the 21st December the examination of the St. Gabriel School took place, the examiners being the same as for Port Mathurin School. Of 45 pupils who were examined, 32 passed. The subjects of examination in both schools were reading, dictation, composition (in French and English), geography, grammar, arithmetic, and writing.

X.—ESTABLISHMENTS.

The cost of establishments in 1889 was Rs. 14,573.60 against Rs. 14,702.34 in 1888, being a decrease of Rs. 128.74, caused by the departure of the Rev. F. MacCarthy, Roman Catholic chaplain, on 31st October, and the payment of only half salary to his successor, the Rev. H. J. Jauny, from 24th November to the 15th December 1889.

XI.—EXPORTS AND IMPORTS.

The estimated value of exports for 1889 was Rs. 62,696.50, against Rs. 46,333 in 1888; and imports Rs. 134,806.50 as compared with Rs. 53,420.20 in the previous year.

Rate of export per head of population was Rs. 31.69 versus 24.08 in 1888.

Rate of import per head of population was Rs. 68.15 versus 27.76 in 1888.

XII.—METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

Daily observations of the barometer, thermometer, winds and weather were made by Mr. C. Mason, Chief Officer of Police, who transmitted them to the Director of the Observatory at Mauritius.

The highest temperature (indoors) was 88.7 on the 17th February 1889, and the lowest 68.9 on the 6th July 1889.

The average daily rainfall was one-eighth of an inch, the greatest fall was $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches on the 11th March 1889.

No hurricane visited the island during the year.

XIII.—GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY.

Eight in-patients and 3,012 out-patients were treated at the hospital and dispensary during 1889. The prevailing diseases were burns, hernia, chicken-pox, alcoholism, rheumatism, and retention of urine.

There was a decrease of 15 in-patients at the hospital, and an increase of 357 out-patients at the dispensary during 1889 as compared with 1888.

The expenditure on account of hospital was Rs. 2,708.98 and receipts Rs. 11.50.

There was an increase of Rs. 40.66 in the total cost of hospital in 1889 as compared with 1888, and a decrease of Rs. 35.13 in the receipts for the same period.

The cost to Government of each patient in hospital and dispensary was in 1889 Rs. 0.89 against Rs. 1.00, in 1888. This is exclusive of cost of medicines.

The Government Medical Officer visited the dispensary at Mount Lubin once a week during the year.

XIV.—GENERAL REMARKS.

During the first few months of 1889 the rainfall was excessive; but from August to the end of the year a severe drought existed, the consequence of which was the failure of the usual food of the mountaineers.

The threatened famine was reported by the Civil Commissioner to the Governor of Mauritius, who sent 600 bags of rice for the relief of the island.

The sanitary condition of the island was good.

No men-of-war and no vessels beyond the one subsidised by Government for "conveyance of mails" and a small private schooner visited the Dependency during 1889.

On the 21st October the Rodrigues Inquiry Commission arrived and commenced their labours on the following day. They left on the 12th November 1889.

On the 31st October the Roman Catholic curé was transferred to Mauritius, and in December his successor, the Rev. H. J. Jauny, arrived.

J. CLAN. O'HALLORAN,
Civil Commissioner and
Police Magistrate.

Island of Rodrigues,
March 26, 1890.

MAURITIUS.

RODRIGUES.

No 3.

Governor SIR C. C. LEES to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, Mauritius,
January 15, 1892.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the report on the Rodrigues Blue Book by Mr. Colin, the Acting Magistrate, for the year 1890.

2. The report is accompanied by a report on the financial statements as directed.

3. I regret that I have not yet been able to transmit to your Lordship the Seychelles Blue Book Reports for 1889 and 1890*, but I have called the attention of both Mr. Griffith and Mr. Brown to the omission in furnishing the reports for these years.

I have, &c
C. C. LEES,
Governor.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

The ACTING MAGISTRATE of RODRIGUES to the COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Rodrigues Magistracy,
November 3, 1891.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith my Annual Report for 1890, and regret not to have been able to send it sooner.

I have, &c.
B. H. COLIN,
Acting Magistrate.

The Hon.
The Colonial Secretary,
Mauritius.

REPORT on the RODRIGUES BLUE BOOK for 1890.

TAXATION.

No alteration was made in the taxation of this island during the year 1890.

See No. 1.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

	Rs.	c.
The revenue of 1890, exclusive of Customs, collected in Mauritius was - - - -	6,766	72
Showing a decrease of - -	1,467	91
As compared with the revenue of 1889, which was - - -	8,234	63
The expenditure of 1890 under estimates and special votes (without including payments made in Mauritius) was - - -	20,846	04
Showing an increase of - -	527	77
On the expenditure of 1889, which amounted to - - -	20,318	27

The principal heads of revenue were land sales, land rent, pasturage fees, and sale of Government property.

The increase of expenses is to be attributed chiefly to the influenza which has prevailed at Rodrigues, to the sum which had to be paid for the continuation of St. Gabriel Church and to the extra expense incurred by having a new Roman Catholic priest at Rodrigues, *i.e.*, the Rev. Father Lefeuvre.

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS.

The exports, exclusive of specie, amounted to Rs. 63,852.65 in 1890 against Rs. 62,696.50 in the year 1889, showing an increase of Rs. 1,156.15 in the exportation of 1890.

The imports in 1890 are valued at Rs. 131,283.45 against Rs. 134,806.50 in 1889, showing a decrease of Rs. 3,523.05 in the importation of 1890.

The rate of export per head of population was Rs. 31.66 and a fraction in 1890, against Rs. 32.34 and a fraction in 1889.

The rate of import per head of population was Rs. 63.31 and a fraction in 1890, against Rs. 69.89 and a fraction in 1889.

SHIPPING.

Under this head the year 1890 compared with 1889 shows the following differences:—

Inwards	}	1889	{ 10 - -	}	1890	{ 8
Outwards	}		{ 10 - -	}		{ 8

MAURITIUS.

RODRIGUES.

Number of Passengers.

	1889.			1890.	
	Males.	Females.		Males.	Females.
Arrivals - -	37	6	Arrivals - -	47	7
Departures -	46	12	Departures - -	33	5

List of Ships.

1889.

	Arrivals.	Departures.
Marmion - - -	11th January.	19th January.
Marmion - - -	31st March.	11th April.
Hattonburn - - -	18th April.	27th April.
Marmion - - -	29th May.	25th June.
Hattonburn - - -	19th June.	2nd July.
Marmion - - -	12th August.	3rd September.
Hattonburn - - -	21st August.	14th September.
Marmion - - -	8th October.	30th October.
Hattonburn - - -	21st October.	12th November.
Little Annie - - -	5th December.	26th December.

1890.

	Arrivals.	Departures.
Hattonburn - - -	28th April.	9th May.
H.M.S. Garnet - -	12th June.	12th June.
Maggie Law - - -	17th June.	29th June.
Hattonburn - - -	4th July.	17th July.
Maggie Law - - -	25th July.	6th August.
Hattonburn - - -	1st September.	13th September.
Hattonburn - - -	18th October.	13th October.
Little Annie - - -	12th December.	24th December.

POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS.

The population of this Dependency on the 31st December 1890 was 2,010 souls, against 1,943 on the 31st December 1889, showing an increase of 67 souls.

NOTE.—The number given by Mr. O'Halloran in his report for 1889 was but an approximate one.

The census of the island having been taken since, I have been able to obtain correct numbers.

Population on the 31st December 1889	-		1,943
Total births in 1890	-	131	
„ arrivals in 1890	-	54 =	185
Less deaths in 1890	-	80	
„ departures in 1890	-	38 =	118
Increase in 1890	-	-	67
Population on the 31st December 1890	-		2,010

Classification showing the number of those employed at various callings and those unemployed (year 1890).

Government servants - - -	21
Traders - - - - -	10
Agriculturists - - - -	400
Artizans - - - - -	18
Fishermen - - - - -	200
Other callings - - - -	14
Unemployed, aged people and young children under the age of 16 - - -	1,347
Total - -	2,010

The number of births in 1890 amounted to 131 against 91 in the preceding year, showing an increase of 40 births. There were 3 still-births in 1890 against 1 in 1889; 44 marriages were celebrated in 1890 against 23 in 1889; 7 marriages *in articulo mortis* against 1 in 1889.

The number of deaths amounted to 80 in 1890 against 33 in 1889, showing an increase of 47 in the mortality of 1890. This great mortality is to be attributed to the "influenza."

Classification of Religious Beliefs.

Roman Catholics - - - -	1,930
Protestants - - - -	66
Musulmans - - - -	5
Hindoos - - - -	7
Pagans - - - -	2
Total - -	2,010

MAURITIUS.

RODRIGUES.

PUBLIC HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY.

	1889.	1890.
In-patients treated at the hospital -	8	67
Out-patients treated at the dispensary -	3,012	3,549
Deaths in the hospital - - -	1	7

The prevailing diseases throughout the island were:—Worms, influenza, rheumatism, throat complaints, a few cases of chicken-pox, bronchitis, uterine complaints.

The diseases treated at the hospital were:—Uterine complaints 7, bruises 1, phthisis 2, influenza 46, liver complaints 2, sore throat 1, foot diseases 1, ear diseases, 2, apoplexy 1, inflammation of the intestines 1, anthrax 1, lumbago 1, general debility due to old age 1 ; total, 67.

	1889.	1890.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Receipts on account of in-patients - -	11 50	13 50
Total expenditure on account of hospital -	2,708 98	2,976 12
Cost of each patient in hospital and dispensary.	0 89	0 82

The rent of the hospital has been paid in Mauritius, and the medicines for the dispensary were sent from Mauritius—I must state here that several items of expenditure for the hospital, amounting to Rs. 87.73, and vaccination fees, amounting to Rs. 112.50, incurred in 1890 have not been included in the above sum of Rs. 2,976.12, the said items having been paid only in 1891.

POOR LAW COMMISSION.

		1889.	1890.
Paupers provided for by Government.	Males -	13	13
	Females -	5	6

Each pauper received 500 grams of rice per diem, and an entire suit of striped drill at the end of the year. The rice and suit were sent from Mauritius. The sum of Rs. 284.35 for relief of poor during the influenza and for their funeral are included in the expenditure on account of the hospital.

ECCLESIASTICAL.

The number of adherents to the different creeds is given under the heading "Population and Vital Statistics." The Roman Catholic Church in the island is supported by Government, and the Church of England by the London Missionary Society.

There are two Roman Catholic priests at Rodrigues, both are paid by Government. The Reverend F. Jauny receives a salary of Rs. 2,000 per annum, and the Reverend F. Lefeuvre a salary of Rs. 1,000 per annum.

Mr. Ed. Gellé, the clerk of the magistrate acts as Catechist for the Church of England; he is paid by the London Missionary Society.

The two Roman Catholic chapels at Rodrigues are *The Sacred Heart* at Port Mathurin, and *St. Gabriel* on the mountain Gabriel.

The expenses incurred by the Government in 1890 for the continuation of the St. Gabriel chapel amounted to Rs. 1,000.00 (grant-in-aid fund).

Mr. Gellé performs his religious ceremonies in the Government school of Port Mathurin.

EDUCATION.

There were only two schools in operation at Rodrigues in 1890, *i.e.*, Port Mathurin's and St. Gabriel's schools. At Port Mathurin's school the number of pupils present at any time during the year 1890 amounted to 63 against 65 in 1889. The average number on roll was 59 against 58. The average attendance 46 against 49.

At St. Gabriel's school the number of pupils present at any time during 1890 amounted to 106 against 87 in 1889. The average number on roll was 106 against 87. The average attendance 73 against 58.

The cost of Port Mathurin's school was Rs. 2,095.92 against Rs. 2,095.92 in 1889. The school fees received in 1890 amounted to Rs. 103.75 and in 1889 to Rs. 98.25.

The cost of St. Gabriel's school was Rs. 1,140.00 in 1890 and Rs. 1,140.00 in 1889. No fees are charged at this school.

The annual cost to Government of each pupil at both schools was Rs. 18.41 and a fraction in 1890, against Rs. 21.63 in the preceding year.

POST OFFICE.

The revenue collected in 1890 was Rs. 158.64 against Rs. 203.58 in 1889.

MAURITIUS.
—
RODRIGUES.
—

The letters and newspapers which passed through the office were as follows:—

1889	Letters received	978	Newspapers received	1,009.
1890		826		327.
1889	Letters despatched	1,382.		
1890		1,178.		

Money orders drawn on Mauritius amounted to Rs. 15,826.46 in 1890 and to Rs. 17,644.95 in the previous year. Orders were drawn on Rodrigues to the value of Rs. 373.79 in 1890 against Rs. 711.00 in the year 1889.

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

Police Court, Criminal Side.

Number of informations filed	-	- 48	in 1889—	41 in 1890.
„ persons tried	-	- 50	„ —46	„
„ persons against whom cases given up	-	- *nil*	„ — 5	„
„ persons convicted	-	- 35	„ —35	„
„ persons acquitted	-	- 15	„ — 6	„

Police Court, Civil Side.

Number of plaints entered	-	- 69	in 1889—	141 in 1890.
„ plaints adjudged upon	-	55	„ —134	„
„ plaints withdrawn or struck out	-	- 9	„ — 7	„
„ judgments for plaintiffs	-	55	„ —128	„
„ judgments nonsuited or dismissed	-	- 5	„ — 6	„

There were two applications for search warrants in 1890 against five in 1889. One application for rectification of an act of birth, and one for the appointment of a guardian *ad hoc* for the marriage of a minor in 1890.

Stipendiary.

Number of informations filed	-	9	in 1889—	10 in 1890.
„ cases tried	-	- 7	„ — 9	„
„ cases given up		- 2	„ — 1	„
„ convictions	-	- 7	„ — 7	„
„ acquittals	-	- —	„ — 2	„

The number of engagements amounted to four in 1890 against three in 1889, and the number of discharges to four in 1890 against three in 1889.

The total number of cases of all jurisdictions entered before the District and Stipendiary Courts during 1889 and 1890 stands as follows :—

Criminal	-	48 in 1889—	41 in 1890.
Civil -	-	69 „	—141 „
Stipendiary		9 „	— 10 „

Showing a decrease of 7 cases in criminal matters, an increase of 72 civil cases, and an increase of 1 stipendiary case.

LEGISLATION.

By Ordinance 16 of 1890 the titles of Police Magistrate and Civil Commissioner of Rodrigues were abolished, the holder of the appointment to be styled "Magistrate of Rodrigues." Ordinances *6, 14, 18, 22, 26, and 31 of 1890, though not specially enacted for this island, are applicable to it.

GAOLS.

Twenty-four prisoners were committed during 1890 against 21 in 1889.

	1889.	1890.
For nonpayment of fines and costs - -	3	1
Safe custody until trial - - -	6	3
Various terms of imprisonment - -	10	17
Debt under Ordinance 16 of 1879 - -	2	3

Nationality of Offenders.

	1889.	1890.
Creoles - - - - -	14	17
Malagasies - - - - -	5	5
Réunion - - - - -	0	1
Indians - - - - -	2	0
Chinese - - - - -	0	1

* Subsequent to the enactment of Ordinance 6 of 1890, Proclamation 20 of 1891 extended the delay for taking the census at Rodrigues to the 3rd May 1891.

MAURITIUS.

RODRIGUES.

The chief officer of police is the keeper of the gaol, and the constables act as prison guards.

No offences were committed in the prison and no escapes took place in the years 1889 and 1890.

The prisoners' extra rations amounted to Rs. 20.12. Rice and salt were sent from Mauritius.

POLICE AND FOREST RANGER.

The police force of Rodrigues is composed of a chief officer of police, of one police corporal, of one first-class Creole constable, of one first-class Indian constable, of two second-class Indian constables. These constables act also as prison guards.

There is but one forest ranger for the whole island; he acts also as special constable. There were eleven reports made against the members of the police in 1890 with the following results:—

Neglect of duty -	Cautioned. Cautioned. Cautioned. Rs. 5 fine.
Disobedience of orders	Six hours' extra duty. Cautioned. Six hours' extra duty. Cautioned. Six hours' extra duty.
Drunk when on duty	- Rs. 2.50 fine.
Insubordination -	- Rs. 5 fine and two days' cells.

The expenses incurred in 1890 for the police force and forest ranger amounted to Rs. 4,179.84 against Rs. 4,174.20 in 1889.

The chief officer of police, the corporal, and constables of police and the forest ranger received each two serge suits, three pairs of drill trousers, four white shirts, three pairs of boots, and two caps in 1890; the same in 1889. These things were sent from Mauritius.

The allowances paid to the police and forest ranger for rations amounted to Rs. 481.80 in 1890 and to Rs. 481.80 in the preceding year.

ESTABLISHMENTS.

The cost of establishments in 1890 was Rs. 15,463.80 and Rs. 14,729.60 in 1889—showing an increase of Rs. 734.20 as compared with 1889. This difference is due to the Roman Catholic priest, Father McCarthy, being paid in 1889 part of his salary in Mauritius, and to the arrival at Rodrigues of the Rev. F. Lefeuvre, a second Roman Catholic priest.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

Daily observations of the barometer and thermometer were made by the Chief Officer of Police, Mr Mason, who transmitted them to the Director of the Royal Alfred Observatory at Mauritius.

The highest temperature (indoors) was on the 10th January 1890. Thermometer, 88.1. Barometer, 30.170 at 3 p.m.

The lowest temperature (indoors) was on the 25th July 1890. Thermometer, 67.0. Barometer, 30.270 at 9 a.m.

During the month of June 1890, which was the month in which there were the heaviest rainfalls, the rain-gauge marked 1,279 lines, which is equivalent to a little more than $12\frac{3}{4}$ inches. From the 19th at 9 a.m. to the 20th June at 9 a.m. a little more than $5\frac{1}{4}$ inches of rain had fallen during these 24 hours.

No hurricane visited the island during the year.

REGISTRATION.

There were 27 documents registered at Rodrigues in 1890 against 24 in 1889. The revenue derived thereby amounted to Rs. 13.50 in 1890 against Rs. 12.00 in 1889, showing an increase of Rs. 1.50 in favour of the year 1890.

FORESTS AND CROWN LANDS.

In 1890 there were 512 acres of land leased to agriculturists, from one to four acres, at Rs. 2 per acre, and 460 acres in 1889, showing an increase of 52 acres on the previous year.

The same number of fishing posts, island and town lots (on Pas Géométriques for boat shed), were leased in 1890 as in 1889, and all, with the exception of Gombrany island, fetched the same price during these two years, *i.e.*, 42 fishing posts at Rs. 5 each, Hermitage island Rs. 5, Gombrany island Rs. 15 in 1889 and Rs. 16 in 1890, Ile-aux-chats at Rs. 10, Ile-aux-fous Rs. 5, and four town lots at Rs. 5 each.

The number of Government lessees in 1890 was 258 against 267 in 1889.

The revenue actually received under the heading of land rent amounted to Rs. 1,025.30 in 1890 against Rs. 1,262.50 in 1889.

The pasturage dues brought a revenue of Rs. 554.30 in 1890 against Rs. 1,159.80 in 1889.

The pasturage revenue for 1889 and 1890 is exclusive of Rs. 2,205.75 due by Mr. James Martin on the 31st December 1890.

Twenty-one acres and four lots were sold for Rs. 604.25 in the year 1890 against one acre sold for Rs. 30 in 1889.

The amount derived from forest produce amounted to Rs. 161.61 in 1890 against Rs. 147.75 in 1889.

MAURITIUS.

RODRIGUES.

No land was bought by Government in 1889 and 1890.

The outstanding land rent for 1890 amounted to Rs. 231 on the 31st December 1890 against Rs. 00 in 1890.

There was still a balance of Rs. 381.30 due for pasturage fees on the 31st December 1890. The forest ranger was in charge of the forest branch during the years 1889 and 1890.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Rs. 979.59 were expended on works (including sanitary) and buildings in 1890, against Rs. 1,446.43 in 1889. The following were the principal works, *i.e.*, completing a stone wall round the prison; adding a verandah to St. Gabriel school; re-roofing Government House. In the above sum of Rs. 979.59 I have not included the sum of Rs. 20 for repairs of boats, and the sum of Rs. 107.75 for cleaning Mountain Reserves lines.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The crop was very fair in 1890, unfortunately towards the end of the year an epidemic of influenza prevailed here with great violence, and prevented the cultivators from continuing their plantations.

The arrears of payments may be chiefly attributed to that fact.

As many as 46 persons died from the influenza, and 36 from other diseases.

Mr. de La Peyre arrived at Rodrigues on the 1st September 1890, and he took over the administration of the island on the 13th of that month, date of the departure of Mr. O'Halloran for Mauritius.

On the 28th November 1890 the title of Civil Commissioner and Police Magistrate was abolished, and the officer in charge of this island to be styled Magistrate of Rodrigues.

On the 12th December Mr. B. H. Colin (the Acting Magistrate) arrived at Rodrigues and relieved Mr. de La Peyre. No man-of-war visited the island during the year 1890.

B. H. COLIN,
Acting Magistrate of Rodrigues.

Rodrigues Magistracy,
5th November 1891.

REPORT BY THE AUDITOR GENERAL.

THE HON. THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,

THE accounts of the revenue and expenditure of Rodrigues kept in the audit office are extracted from the quarterly accounts sent by the magistrate, but our figures as regards the revenue and matters of account for 1890 do not agree with those given by the magistrate in his Blue Book Report.

According to the audit books the revenue collected at Rodrigues in 1890 was Rs. 6,875.19, and the total of the matters of account was Rs. 17,245.06, making the total receipts in 1890 Rs. 24,120.25.

The magistrate gives the revenue as Rs. 6,766.72, and matters of accounts as Rs. 18,152.35, or a total receipt of Rs. 24,919.07.

As regards the expenditure, both real and matters of account, the audit books give the same total as stated by the magistrate, but there is again a difference in the items. The audit books give the real expenditure as Rs. 20,817.04, and matters of account as Rs. 438.79, making a total of Rs. 21,255.83.

The magistrate give Rs. 20,846.04 as the real expenditure, and Rs. 409.79 as matters of account, making the same total of Rs. 21,255.83.

I consider that the audit figures should be accepted, because the following statement shows, I think, that they are correct:—

	Rs.	c.
Balance in chest on 31st December 1889, as per magistrate's return	14,687	99
Receipts in 1890 as per audit books	24,120	25
	38,808	24
Deduct disbursements	21,255	83
Balance	17,552	41

This balance is made up of the following items:—

	Rs.	c.
Deficit of Mr. O'Halloran	5,390	00
Remitted to Mauritius on 24th December 1890	8,500	00
Balance in chest on 31st December 1890, as per magistrate's return	3,662	41
Total	17,552	41

I annex a statement of the revenue and expenditure of Rodrigues for 1890 showing in parallel columns the figures as given by the magistrate and by the audit office.

THOS. ELLIOTT,
Auditor General.

MAURITIUS.

RODRIGUES.

Revenue of Rodrigues for the Year 1890.

Heads of Revenue.	Amount shown by Rodrigues.	Heads of Revenue.	Amount shown by the Audit Books.
	Rs. c.		Rs. c.
School fees - - - -	103 75	School fees - - -	103 75
Land sales - - - -	604 25	Land sale - - - -	517 91
Postage - - - -	158 64	Postage - - - -	158 64
Pasturage - - - -	554 30	Pasturage - - - -	485 90
Mortgage - - - -	13 50	Mortgage - - - -	12 50
Licenses - - - -	1,230 75	Licenses - - - -	1,230 75
Stamps - - - -	158 66	Stamps - - - -	128 62
Dog tax - - - -	301 81	Dog tax - - - -	301 81
Miscellaneous receipts - -	2,101 02	Miscellaneous receipts - -	1,410 79
Land revenue - - -	1,025 30	Land revenue - - -	898 30
Fees of office - - -	7 00	Fees of office - - -	3 75
Forest revenue - - -	161 61	Forest revenue - - -	208 09
Fines, &c. - - - -	289 10	Fines, &c. - - - -	323 89
Sale of Government property -	57 03	Sale of Government property -	1,090 49
	6,766 72		6,875 19
Matters of Account.		*Matters of Account.*	
Advances:		Advances:	
Payment by Government debtors on account of rice	2,241 05	Refund from police for stores	620 46
		„ „ Mr. Henrison „	69 77
		„ rice to sundry debtors	643 53
			1,333 76
Deposits:		Deposits:	
Rs.		Rs.	
Money orders 15,826.46		Money orders - 15,826.46	
Widows and orphans - - 84.84		Widows and orphans - 84.84	
	15,911 30		15,911 30
Total matters of account - -	18,152 35	Total matters of accounts -	17,245 06
„ real revenue - - -	6,766 72	„ real revenue - -	6,875 19
Total receipts -	24,919 07	Total receipts -	24,120 25

Expenditure of Rodrigues for the Year 1890.

Heads of Particular	Amount shown by Rodrigues.	Heads of Particulars.	Amount shown by the Audit Books.
	Rs. c.		Rs. c.
Salaries - - - -	14,346 00	Salaries - - - -	14,309 67
Allowances - - - -	1,168 20	Allowances - - -	1,117 80
Pensions - - - -	1,336 32	Pensions - - - -	1,336 32
Administration of justice -	118 75	Administration of justice -	102 75
Miscellaneous — Meteorological Department - - -	180 25	Ecclesiastical - - -	1,000 00
Poor Law Department - -	284 35	Meteorological observations -	180 25
Boat, stores, &c. - - -	20 00	Special repayment - -	118 91
Provisions for prisoners - -	20 12	Boat, stores, &c. - - -	24 12
Vaccination fees - - -	73 50	Provisions for prisoners - -	18 60
Miscellaneous - - -	2,580 53	Rent of hospital - - -	54 08
Maintenance of buildings -	675 42	Vaccination fees - - -	73 50
Petty supplies - - -	33 35	Miscellaneous services - -	1,738 76
Do. for schools -	9 25	Addition to house of Civil Commissioners - - -	21 00
		Maintenance of buildings -	696 28
		Petty supplies - - -	16 75
		Do. for schools -	8 25
	20,846 04		20,817 04
Matters of Account.		*Matters of Account.*	
Deposits:		Advances:	
Money orders - - -	359 79	Landing 600 bags of rice ex "Little Annie."	40 0
Police Reward Fund - -	50 00	Deposits:	
		Rs.	
		Money orders - - 373.79	
		Police Reward Fund - 25.00	
			398 79
Total matters of account -	409 79	Total matters of account -	438 79
„ real expenditure - -	20,846 04	„ real expenditure - -	20 817 04
Total expenditure -	21,255 83	Total expenditure -	21,255 83

MAURITIUS.

ALDABRA ISLAND.

No. 4.

Governor SIR C. C. LEES to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, Mauritius,
August 24, 1891.

MY LORD,

I BEG to transmit, for your Lordship's information, the following Despatch from the Administrator covering an interesting report from Mr. James Spurs, the lessee of Aldabra Island.

I should be glad if the suggestion made by Mr. Griffith in the last paragraph of his Despatch might be adopted.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. C. LEES,
Governor.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

Government House, Seychelles,
August 14, 1891.

SIR,

IN my Despatch of the 3rd May 1890, I had the honour to inform your Excellency that I had asked Mr. Thomas James Spurs, the lessee of the Aldabra Islands, to furnish me with information as to the land tortoises and the resources of the islands generally.

2. Mr. Spurs, who has recently paid a visit to Mahé, was good enough to hand me before his redeparture for Aldabra on the 20th July a report, of which the enclosed is a copy, containing much valuable information concerning the group, but especially as to the island of Aldabra itself.

3. It is gratifying to learn that the fears which were entertained as to the possible extinction of the land tortoises owing to the occasional depredations on the part of crews of Arab dhows, small vessels from Bourbon, and the turtle fishermen from various places, have not been altogether realised ; and that, in consequence of the natural difficulties which present themselves to persons who occasionally come in search of these interesting creatures, and the peculiarly seclusive nature of the animals themselves, there is improbability of their becoming extinct.

4. The views expressed by Mr. Spurs in the closing paragraphs as to the possible extinction of the shell-giving turtle throughout the various groups of islands under the Seychelles Government are not altogether shared by other persons competent to form an opinion on the subject. No doubt if legislative enactments could be effectively carried out much might be done to encourage and increase the growth of the carets or hawks-bill turtle ; but legislation is one thing, and the enforcement of laws against fishermen on the open sea or in uninhabited places is another.

5. There are one or two other items of interest relating to the Aldabra group omitted by Mr. Spurs which it may not be out of place here to mention.

The shallower waters around these islands contain large quantities of the beche-de-mer, or sea cucumber, the tripang of the Malays.

Mr. Spurs has taken with him some Chinese from Mahé who are experts at preparing this article of diet, which finds a large and ready sale in the Chinese markets.

Orchilla weed or rocella lichen of good quality is also found in no inconsiderable quantity on the islands, and doubtless the lessee will discover its collection and shipment to be a remunerative industry.

Mr. Spurs personally informed me that he expected to obtain annually upwards of 12,000 of the green turtle or edible turtle, the meat of which he proposes to dry and ship. Some idea of the value attaching to these islands may be obtained from the above particulars.

6. Although the rent at which the islands have been leased may be considered trifling, I think the Government are fortunate in having secured Mr. Spurs for a tenant; for it will be gathered from his report, which is interesting reading, that he is an observant man and a lover of Nature, nor do I think he is likely, to use an old and homely phrase, to kill the goose that lays the golden eggs by exhibiting that rapaciousness which has characterised the actions of others who have been there before him.

7. Your Excellency might perhaps be disposed to make the suggestion in transmitting Mr. Spurs's report to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State that it should be printed as an Appendix to the Annual Reports for 1889 and 1890 upon which I am engaged, or, if deemed of sufficient interest, as a separate miscellaneous Colonial paper.

I have, &c.

(Signed) T. RISELY GRIFFITH,
Administrator.

His Excellency
Sir Charles Cameron Lees, K.C.M.G.,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief,
Mauritius.

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ALDABRA ISLAND.

To His Honour T. RISELY GRIFFITH, Esq., Administrator of Seychelles Islands.

Port Victoria, Seychelles,
July 19, 1891.

SIR,

THE island of Aldabra, situated between 9° 24′ south latitude and 46°22′ east longitude from Greenwich, is the most westerly island of the group of that name composed of the islands of Aldabra, Astove, Cosmoledo, and Assumption.

By its extent, formation, flora, and fauna, Aldabra is, from a scientific point of view, more interesting than the sister islands. It is completely covered with trees and stunted shrubs, but very green. Its aspect is agreeable. Here and there mangrove trees of 55 feet in height show their thick foliage and adorn the landscape.

It is undesirable and unnecessary to venture into these inextricable bushes, inhabited as they are by myriads of large mosquitoes, the sting of which makes one suffer.

The island is flat, and the land to the westward extends from north-west to nearly south east. Its length is 20 miles, the eastern part bending crescent shape to its two extremities and forming a basin in the interior, which is closed on the east side by three islands. These fragments are separated by four channels, of which only one gives access to the lagoon at low water. The narrowness of this channel, and the strong currents that are met with there, render it practicable only for steamers.

The geological formation of this group differs from those of other known fossil coral islands. This is owing to volcanic eruption, whilst the Farquhar Islands, Providence, the Amirantes, and the Chagos are the products of degradation or subsidence, as fully explained by the celebrated Darwin.

Yet in the Chagos group, at Diego Garcia, there is a basement of 100 feet in length to the south promontory of the island. The small island to the north-east, which has raised promontories, has not undergone the course of degradation. At Aldabra the raised promontories remain the same as they have been from their formation.

At first sight it seems extraordinary that an island essentially madreporic and so vast should not be interspersed with sandy plains; but throughout its extent it is a solid madreporic mass. When, however, it is known how strong the currents and surf are in these latitudes it is easily explained. In fact the sea bursting with great violence on the reef (which had not yet reached the level of the water) swept off all the calcareous detritus, throwing it into great depths.

This natural sweeping maintained a great cleanliness, and imparted to the different sorts of corals an extraordinary strength of growth, especially observable on the cliffs, which, corroded by the sea and disintegrated by the atmospheric agents, expose to view the mighty fossil coral masses of which they are formed. Hence the total absence of sandy fields.

In the other formations such as the Chagos group, when the reefs had attained their last stage of growth, which is nearly one foot above the strong ebb tides, the masses of sands and rolled-up corals were accumulated by the effect of the surges which met in an inverted shape on the point of the reefs. The latter must have remained stationary in order to be able to form a great deposit, or it might be that their movement of degradation was extremely slow.

In these conditions the sands and the rolled-up corals solidly aggregate, but then it is easy to give an account of their mode of formation, since it is by the infiltrations of lime across these masses that they solidify, and this solidification remains always some inches below the level of high water.

The most elevated promontory of solid masses at Aldabra is to be found on the west section of that island called Picard Island, and measuring 25 feet above the sea. Here andthere walls are to be found being the result of the degradation of the mass, or else proceeding from the decomposition of a great porite, which builds its haunt in a cylindrical or cisternlike form. It is only in the Aldabra group that I have seen this sort of coral in a fossil state, and I have been unable to find even one alive.

In decomposing this coral yields a yellow vegetable mould, which is of very great fertility. Unfortunately there is very little of it, so as to enable one to derive any profit or advantage.

In almost all the western part of Aldabra, from the south to the north, there is a reef of from 100 to 200 yards in width. In the eastern part the sea breaks almost everywhere against the coral reefs.

This reef has been formed on one side by the destruction of the cliff, and on the other by the growth of reefs from the side towards the open sea. Upon this reef and around the island the corals grow no more with that prodigious vigour which they possessed many ages ago. Upon the interior belt, however, of the island, formed of a slimy depth which the destruction of the solid masses has left, there are to be found paludal trees, which from a distance present a green border.

The hurricane that in May 1889 laid waste Farquhar Island has here overturned or blown down almost all the large trees. But, apart from the havoc made by this hurricane, there are other injuries of a nature more severe, which I attribute mainly to the mephitic exhalations of the soil. In many places small paludal forests are to be met with but all dead, of which some trees are still standing, while others have been apparently blown down by the wind. Their death seems to have been caused by violence. One thing which will, I think, lead you to accept these remarks of mine is the fact that your Honour was kind enough to read to me a paragraph from a report which Commander Needham, R.N., who visited Aldabra in H.M.S. "Reindeer," addressed to Vice Admiral Fremantle last year, in which he states having seen a remarkable occurrence, in the rising many times of a jet of vapour

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ALDABRA ISLAND.

of large quantity from the water which appeared around it to be depressed as in a whirlpool. The inference is that Aldabra is still liable to volcanic action.

It has been my duty to study at Aldabra some very curious climatic phenomena. In the months of December, January, and February some very strong squalls of rain are constantly formed towards the west and the north-west of the island, but as they gradually approach the land they disperse without a single drop of water falling upon the earth. The rain only falls when the squalls which have passed above the island are driven back by a contrary wind. This rain is then but local and of short duration.

On the 12th January of the present year (1891) the island was visited by a small cyclone, the barometer falling to 29°, which is a strong depression for our latitudes. During the 24 hours of the duration of the bad weather, nearly six inches of water fell. From the beginning of this epoch to the end of February the weather was very dry, the thermometer ranging in the shade, from 9 o'clock a.m. to 3 o'clock p.m., 92, 94, and 96 degrees Fahrenheit, and the barometer falling to 27 degrees. Whereas during my 18 years of abode at Diego Garcia, and five years at Farquhar Island, I have never seen the hot season bring about a barometric depression of more than six to eight-tenths of an inch.

The flora of Aldabra, compared with that of other fossil coral islands, is very rich; about 30 species and varieties of trees and shrubs exist, but very small, seeing that they grow on the corals where they hardly find means for growth.

Foremost among the fauna we find the big tortoises. These chelonians are still numerous. It is only on the section of the island called "Picard" that they have been destroyed by the harpooners, or "vareurs," who usually encamp at that place when they come to fish at Aldabra.

Upon my arrival there I caused to be taken 11 large tortoises on the principal section of the island and set them loose on the Picard Island, where I took measures to destroy the rats, which are the most redoubtable enemies of young tortoises. Thanks to this precaution the tortoises will multiply at the usual and proper rate.

On seeing a tortoise of Aldabra, which seems so heavy, one cannot believe that it is able to move about in the place where it lives. In fact it is impossible to meet with a place more liable to cause accidents and filled with more obstacles than this group. Yet this shapeless reptile opens its way everywhere with a comparatively remarkable skill and swiftness. One day I caused some of them to be placed in a natural ditch for the purpose of setting them loose on the morrow, but what was my astonishment a minute afterwards to see one in the plain running away as fast as its legs could carry it. With the help of its nails it succeeded in getting out of the ditch, a thing which I was far from believing it capable of doing. From May to September these beasts enter in the woods, where they conceal themselves in

the most bushy places, and only come out in October, where they show themselves with the first rain. It is then that they couple together, and the female lays eggs in November, January, and February. Each time they lay from six to eight eggs.

The sea-birds are numerous. The grallics, or waders, are represented by several varieties, and a species of macrodactyl, which seem to have originally belonged to Aldabra. As they are neither flying nor swimming birds, they could not have come from Madagascar or Africa. The sparrows form a group of six families and varieties, after which we find a climber.

The sea-turtles are numerous throughout the whole group, but it is curious to note that the males alone inhabit the bay and the elevated grounds which are around the islands. It is the same in the Chagos Archipelago and the Amirantes, &c., &c. As soon as a female has attained the age of producing (which takes place usually at from 20 to 25 years) she disappears—whither, is a mystery no one knows. But when they return and approach the coasts to lay eggs they are covered with barnacles which show a development of two or three weeks. As the turtles swim up on the surface of the water in deep places, these shells adhere to their carapace during the journey. I think the absence of the females from the coasts is due to the rather considerable number of the males. The females have more value and are more easily caught than the males, so much so that at the present time there are nearly 10 males to one female, while the proportion which is met with in bringing them up from the eggs is 10 females to one male. Hence the desperate fights between these animals during the breeding season, from which the sharks derive an immense advantage. The species of dog-fish which frequent these latitudes is too small to be able to eat a big turtle; it cuts off its fins, the head, and the tail. Once I caught one of 10 feet long, which had in the paunch three heads and the remainder of the fins of big turtles, and a young entire turtle which I estimated weighed nearly 30 pounds.

A female turtle lays eggs three times in each season, and on each occasion produces 125 eggs. As soon as the young turtles are hatched, and before reaching the water, they become the prey of land crabs, of the grallics, and frigates, or man-of-war birds. Once in the water the danger is not over, for they are there the prey of all the fish large enough to swallow them. For this reason they do not live on the coasts, but allow themselves to be carried by the currents and surges, which they are not strong enough to resist, far out into the sea. In these depths their lives are still uncertain, but it is only there that they can better escape the grasp of their enemies.

In former times the "carets," or hawks-bill turtle, were an important branch of the productions of Aldabra, their scales being particularly large. Their number, however, has greatly diminished owing to the destructive practices of the harpooners. They proceed in the following manner:—

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The water of the bay is saline; at low water, therefore, they go near the corals where they know these animals feed. It is with difficulty that they are able to distinguish in this disturbed water whether they are large or small, but, disliking to miss a big turtle, they throw the harpoons at all they meet with. As the implement they use for this purpose has a spring which opens or straightens when it has penetrated into the interior of the animal, it is cut open to disengage or free the implement, which invariably kills the poor beast.

The laws which regulate turtle fishing in Seychelles have been made, doubtless, by intelligent men, but they could not have known the habits of these interesting beasts. And if these laws are not amended and strictly enforced, before 10 years turtles will be no more in Seychelles.

The turtle is a valuable object of commerce and a veritable curiosity.

On the whole the Aldabra group is very interesting from a scientific point of view, but it has little or no prospect of a good future from a commercial standpoint, as it is improbable that anything can be done there by way of cultivation.

Trusting that this information and these few remarks will be of some interest to your Honour,

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES SPURS.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 24.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1890.

(In continuation of Colonial Report No. 100, Old Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

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1892.

[C.—6563.–8.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

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No.	Colony.	Year.
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92	Bermuda	,,
93	St. Vincent	1888
94	St. Vincent	1889
95	Bahamas	,,
96	St. Lucia	,,
97	British Bechuanaland	1888–89
98	Turks and Caicos	1889
99	Gambia	,,
100	Straits Settlements	,,
101	St. Kitts-Nevis	1886
102	Basutoland (Governor's visit)	1890
103	British New Guinea	1888–9
104	Natal	1889
105	Malta	,,
106	British Guiana	,,
107	Barbados	,,
108	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
109	Western Australia	,,
110	Gold Coast (Agriculture)	1890
111	Labuan	1889
112	Jamaica	,,
113	Falkland Islands	,,
114	Basutoland	1889–90
115	Sierra Leone	1889
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11	Bahamas	,,
12	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
13	Gibraltar	,,
14	Zululand	,,
15	Sierra Leone	,,
16	Barbados	,,
17	Falkland Islands	,,
18	Labuan	,,
19	British Honduras	,,
20	Basutoland	1890–91
21	Trinidad and Tobago	1890
22	Leeward Islands	,,
23	Grenada	,,

No. 24.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

[In continuation of Colonial Report No. 100, Old Series.]

Sir C. C. SMITH to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, Singapore,
August 25, 1891.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward the report by the Colonial Secretary on the Blue Book of the Straits Settlements for the year 1890.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CECIL C. SMITH.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.
Colonial Office.

REPORT on the STRAITS SETTLEMENTS BLUE BOOK for the Year 1890.

Finance.

1. The revenue of the Colony for the year 1890, amounting to $4,269,125, was less than that for 1889 by $140,802. The principal decreases were under licenses, $149,977, of which about two-thirds is due from the opium and spirit farms and is nearly all recoverable, while the remaining third represents an absolute loss on pawnbrokers' licenses owing to a change in the law which involves a loss of about $100,000 a year; revenue stamps, $19,375; fines, fees, and forfeitures, $11,418; miscellaneous receipts, $34,721. On the other hand there were increases under postage of $17,462; and under interest of $50,953. There were outstanding on 1st January 1891 arrears of revenue amounting to $115,950, of which $110,000 is probably recoverable; this latter sum includes a sum of $104,000 due under the head of licenses for the opium and spirit farms of Singapore and Penang.

2. The expenditure for 1890 amounted to $3,757,693, and shows a decrease as compared with 1889 of $54,920. There were, however, considerable increases under some heads in 1890 as compared with 1889, namely, under salaries, $104,081, accounted for in part by a liberal increase to the salaries of the higher civil appointments; under pensions, $13,483; police, $8,626; gaols, $16,425; military expenditure, $49,770; to which should be added $585,262 paid early in 1891 as arrears of military contribution for

o 68720. Wt. 19750.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

1890. The principal decreases were under postal services, $11,813; under public works, $268,285.

3. The assets and liabilities on 31st December 1890 show a balance in favour of asset of $1,223,447, as against $1,541,102 on 31st December 1889, being a decrease of $317,655; the balance to the credit of the Colony amounting, as shown above, to $1,223,447. This sum in fact represents mainly outstanding assets of the Colony awaiting recovery and leaves only a small working cash balance. The balance of $1,223,447 does not include the "Investments" given under the head of dependencies, amounting to $1,318,752, being loans to the Native States and to the municipalities, which cannot be classed as marketable securities, though in course of time they will be doubtless recovered. At the close of 1890 the balance on the public debt of the Colony amounted only to 5,800*l.*, and on the 15th November 1891 the whole of the small loan of 100,000*l.* raised under Ordinance 1 of 1877 will be paid off and the Colony will be free from debt.

4. Towards the latter end of the year the Penang opium farmer became bankrupt, and later it became necessary to give some relief to the Singapore opium farmer; and at the end of the year it was finally decided by Her Majesty's Government to raise the military contribution of the Colony from 50,145*l.* to 100,000*l.* per annum; consequently the financial outlook at the close of 1890 was worse than that at the close of 1889 by no less than $971,272, for on the revenue side the revenue from opium and spirits shows a decrease of $576,600, of which, $336,600 is in Penang and $240,000 in Singapore, while on the expenditure side the military contribution shows an increase of $394,672. There will fall to be paid in 1891 a sum of $84,858 in redemption of the remainder of the Malacca land annuities: this is a capital investment, and not expenditure out of current revenue. The transaction results in a permanent gain to the revenue of about $2,000 a year.

5. The following statement gives particulars of the assets and liabilities on the 1st January 1890 and 1891, including dependencies under assets of $1,318,752, and under liabilities of $31,636:—

Assets.			Liabilities.		
	1st January 1890.	1st January 1891.		1st January 1890.	1st January 1891.
	$	$		$	$
Cash on current account with local banks -	394,261	839,047	Balance in favour of the Crown Agents - -	1,901	7,205
Investments, gold - -	1,013,762	1,013,762	Debenture loan - -	103,233	31,636
Invested in Government of India loans - -	350,000	350,000	Deposits, &c. - -	526,345	650,640
Loans to Native States -	527,044	765,452	Expenditure in arrears -	19,217	686,297
Loans to municipalities -	553,800	553,300		650,696	1,375,778
Other investments -	175,631	188,459			
Miscellaneous advances, &c., &c. - -	145,196	60,371	Net balance to the credit of the Colony -	2,559,977	2,510,564
Singapore defences -	41,262	—			
Revenue in arrears -	9,717	115,951			
Total - -	3,210,673	3,886,342	Total - -	3,210,673	3,886,342

6. The course of exchange is shown in the following table: —

Bank Bills.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*d.*	*s. d.*
On London:— Sterling, on demand, Highest -	3 3	3 2⅝	3 2⅛	3 4¾	3 5⅛	3 6	3 8	3 10¾	3 10⅝	3 7	3 6¼	3 7¼
Lowest -	3 2⅜	3 1⅜	3 1½	3 1⅞	3 4¼	3 4⅛	3 5½	3 8⅜	3 6⅛	3 5½	3 4¼	3 5½

The highest rate of exchange during the year was in August, viz., 3*s.* 10¾*d.*, and the lowest rate of exchange during the year was in February, viz., 3*s.* 1⅜*d.* The average rate for the year was 3*s.* 6⅛*d.*

PUBLIC WORKS.

7. The following are the principal works undertaken, carried on, or completed in 1890:—

Principal Works.	Estimated Cost.
	$ c.
SINGAPORE.	
Telok Ayer reclamation - - - -	300,000 00
Improvements to Singapore River and Esplanade - -	230,000 00
New river wall and quay at Kampong Saigon - - -	72,763 00
New Johnston's pier - - - - - -	90,000 00
Tanjong Pagar police station - - - - -	20,000 00
New Quarters for 40 married constables - - -	10,000 00
Beach Road (Raffles Institute) reclamation - - -	30,000 00
Reconstruction of river walls in Government charge - -	25,000 00
PENANG AND PROVINCE WELLESLEY.	
New Government offices - - - - -	250,000 00
Resident councillor's house - - - - -	48,000 00
Reconstruction of south wing Government Hill bungalow -	12,000 00
Pontoon for landing jetty - - - - -	5,500 00
New police administration block - - - -	18,500 00
Clerks' quarters, Balik Pulau - - - - -	5,820 00
New convalescent bungalow - - - -	18,000 00
Construction of sea wall in front of beach property - -	10,000 00
Water supply to Bukit Mertajam Village - - -	38,900 00
Metalling road from Balik Pulau to Pulau Betong - -	19,000 00
Construction of road from Tanjong Tokong to Batu Feringgi -	50,500 00
Construction of pontoon bridge, Nibong Tebal - - -	31,000 00

Singapore.

8. The Telok Ayer reclamation has been in progress for the last ten years and is now approaching completion. By this undertaking a large bay has been filled in and a wide extent of valuable building land secured in a direction where the town had become most congested. A direct road has been opened of the

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docks, and a steam tramway brings them in close connexion with the commercial quarters of Singapore.

9. The works at the mouth of the Singapore River are those recommended by Sir J. Coode. They have been completed, and with the mud from the river the esplanade has been doubled in width, much to the satisfaction of the European and Eurasian community, who find there the necessary accommodation for various means of recreation.

10. Kampong Saigon is an island which was a few years ago covered with huts upon piles occupied by some of the worst characters in Singapore. They were cleared out, the island raised several feet with town refuse and mud from the river, and the whole has been surrounded by a neat river wall on a novel and economical plan. One portion has been given to the municipality for an abattoir, and that body have constructed one handsome iron bridge leading thereto, and contemplate building another.

11. The construction of a new Johnston's Pier, a much desired work, made rapid progress during the year, and was completed in the middle of 1891, with the exception of the wave screen, which is intended to secure smooth water alongside the landing pontoons.

12. The growing importance of the docks and wharves called for the construction of a more commodious police station at Tanjong Pagar than the one which had existed from the early days of the Colony. The new station has been built on a commanding site at the corner of the Keppel Road, the ground for the purpose being given to the Government by the Tanjong Pagar Dock Company.

13. It having been represented that it was subversive to the discipline of the police force that many of the married constables were obliged to live in hired lodgings on account of the paucity of Government quarters, the remedy has been provided by the construction of 40 new quarters on a site adjacent to the People's Park. They are now quite complete and are much appreciated by the force.

14. By the Beach Road Reclamation two advantages are secured—(*a*) the flat beach in front of the town is reclaimed in continuation of the esplanade and provides room for the recreation and amusement of the large community living in Kampong Bencoolen; (*b*) it provides a place of deposit for the dredgings from the river which otherwise would have to be taken out to sea.

15. The vote for the re-construction of river walls has for its object to gradually put in proper order the river walls and quays still in charge of the Government and to hand them over to the municipality, when their annual maintenance will be no longer a charge on the revenues of the Colony.

Penang.

16. The new Government offices have been completed, and now furnish every facility for carrying on the administration of the various departments located therein.

17. The Resident Councillor's house provides that officer with a commodious residence well suited to meet the requirements of the executive head of that Settlement.

18. The south wing of the Government Hill Bungalow (Bel Retiro) has been completed in a solid and permanent manner. Attention is still required to the laying out of the grounds.

19. The small quarter formerly occupied as a residence and office by the Superintendent of Police having proved far too cramped for the efficient administration of the Department, and the building itself being in a tumbledown condition, it was determined to build the new administrative block in which accommodation could be conveniently provided for carrying on the different duties. A new site was selected at the corner of Leith Street just opposite the public offices. A fine building has now been erected, and the various police requirements fully met.

20. Beach property was acquired by Government from the Presbyterian Mission. For long past the sea during the south-west monsoon has been making serious inroads on the foreshore. The substantial sea-wall which has been erected will stop any further changes in this respect.

21. Bukit Mertajam is one of the most thriving centres of Province Wellesley, and during times of drought it suffers greatly from want of water. An excellent gravitation supply was found on the far side of the range of hills and is being brought by a line of iron pipes to the village, which will greatly benefit thereby.

22. The road traffic in the Balik Pulau district has immensely increased since the opening of the Ginting Road which connects Balik Pulau with George Town. The earthen road from Balik Pulau to Pulau Betong was found to be unable to stand this traffic, and had to be properly metalled.

23. The commencement of the Batu Feringgi Road marks a policy which has obtained general approval by which a circular road will run round the island of Penang. It is rather a heavy undertaking, and will gradually be carried out in four sections that now commenced being the first section only.

24. Of the Province Wellesley roads and bridges, the only one requiring any particular notice is the pontoon bridge at Nibong Tebal. It was originally proposed to construct this bridge lower down the river at Telok Epil, but the site was subsequently changed. The work is now complete, and roads in the Trans-Krian are in progress.

Malacca.

25. No works of importance were undertaken in Malacca, except some preliminary steps in connexion with the new water works, which will bring a much-needed supply of water into the town from the northern side of Bukit Bruang, some eight miles distant.

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MUNICIPALITIES.

26. The following statement gives the actual revenue and expenditure, cash balances, and outstanding loans of the municipalities of the three Settlements respectively, for 1889 and 1890:—

Municipalities.	1889.	1890.
REVENUE:	$	$
Singapore - - - -	664,684	635,082
Penang - - - -	330,946	237,940
Malacca - - - -	26,990	25,245
	1,022,620	898,267
EXPENDITURE:		
Singapore - - - -	600,915	703,748
Penang - - - -	203,217	314,251
Malacca - - - -	23,626	23,244
	827,758	1,041,243
CASH BALANCE AT CLOSE OF YEAR:		
Singapore - - - -	233,769	333,333
Penang - - - -	204,228	127,862
Malacca - - - -	6,364	2,001
	444,361	463,196
LOANS OUTSTANDING AT CLOSE OF YEAR:		
Singapore - - - -	400,000	550,000
Penang - - - -	250,000	250,000
Malacca - - - -	24,000	23,500
	674,000	823,500

27. The following shows the amount of the rates and taxes for the three Settlements outside municipal limits; and the amount expended on roads and bridges in the same districts during the year:—

Amount of Rates and Taxes collected in 1890.		Amount expended by Government during 1890 on Roads and Bridges.	
	$ c.		$ c.
Singapore - -	2,617 25	Singapore - -	59,147 18
Penang - -	66,819 67	Penang and P.W. -	186,105 27
Malacca -	12,427 80	Malacca - -	155,630 98

Excess of Expenditure over Receipts.

	$	c.
Singapore - - - -	56,529	93
Penang - - - -	119,253	04
Malacca - - - -	143,583	18

LEGISLATION.

28. The Legislative Council met 17 times during the year, and 16 Ordinances were passed, in regard to none of which has Her Majesty the Queen exercised Her power of disallowance Among these may be mentioned:—

An Ordinance (II.) relating to reformatories and industrial schools, adapted from the English Act which had already been brought into operation in Ceylon and Hongkong.

An Ordinance (IV.) for the protection of coco-nut trees from the ravages of certain beetles. Very great destruction was going on among coco-nut trees in the Colony owing to the attacks of these beetles (the *Oryctes rhinoceros* and the *Rhynchophorus ferrugineus*), so much so that it seemed likely that, unless some steps were taken to remedy the evil, coco-nut cultivation would cease. By this Ordinance it becomes the duty of owners of coco-nut trees attacked by beetles to destroy such trees.

An Ordinance (VII.) to consolidate and amend the law relating to passenger ships.

Ordinances XI. and XII., which are adaptations of English Acts of Parliament—(1.) relating to the law of evidence with respect of bankers' books, by which bankers are relieved from the necessity of producing their books in court; and (2) consolidating the law relating to arbitration.

29. The most important matter discussed in the Council was the demand of Her Majesty's Government for an increased military contribution, which was strongly opposed by all the unofficial members of the Council.

30. During the year two commissions were issued by the Governor, upon requisitions from the Legislative Council, the first for an inquiry into the management of native religious trusts in Penang, and the second for an inquiry into the state of labour in the Colony and in the protected Native States, with a view to devising a scheme for encouraging immigration, and thereby supplying the demand for labour.

REGISTRY OF DEEDS AND REGISTRY OF BILLS OF SALE.

31. The amount of fees collected under "the Registration of Deeds Ordinance, 1886," was $7,498 25, as against $8,852 75 in 1889, and the amount of fees collected under "The Bills of Sale Ordinance, 1886," was $1,509 25, as against $1,648 in 1889. A Bill to amend "The Registration of Deeds Ordinance, 1886,"

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was published towards the close of the year. The principal changes proposed by the Bill were—(*a*) an alteration in the form of the certificate of identity on deeds; (*b*) better provisions for enabling the Registrar to refuse to register deeds not duly stamped, and deeds relating to land on which an arrear of land revenue is due to the Colony; and (*c*) a provision for the protection of registering officers, so long as they act *bonâ fide*. In November a solicitor from England was appointed deputy registrar of deeds, and was also appointed by the Supreme Court a Commissioner to administer oaths for the purpose of enabling him to attest and explain bills of sale and to take statutory declarations under "The Bills of Sale Ordinance, 1886."

POSTAL DEPARTMENT.

32. The business of this Department exhibits a satisfactory increase. In 1890, 2,276,258 articles were received, and 2,285,628 were despatched, as compared with 1,996,113 and 2,097,609 in the previous year.

33. The revenue during the year under review was $148,001, being $17,454 more than was collected in 1889. Every post office in the Colony contributed to this increase, but the improvement is most noticeable in Penang, which shows a total nearly 100 per cent. higher than 1888.

34. The expenditure for 1890 amounted to $110,708, being $37,393 less than the revenue.

35. The operations of the money order branch amounted in 1890 to the large sum of $395,834, which is an increase of $139,674 over the transactions of the previous year. The principal business done was with the United Kingdom, India, and the Native States.

36. The postal service in Province Wellesley and Malacca was improved and extended, and it is satisfactory to note that greater efficiency is reported of all the subordinate offices.

37. The registration and late fees were reduced from 8 and 12 cents respectively to 5 cents, and arrangements were completed for the adoption, on the 1st January 1891, of an uniform rate of postage for letters of 5 cents the half-ounce to all parts of the world beyond the Colony and the Native States, the local postage remaining unchanged at 2 cents.

SAVINGS BANK.

38. The total amount deposited in the three savings banks of the Colony during 1890 was $112,020, being $382 less than the sum withdrawn. The sum at the credit of depositors on the 31st December 1890 was $126,961 46, and the aggregate sum lodged in the bank from its establishment in 1887 to the same day was $785,706.

39. Particulars of the business transacted by the branches in Singapore, Penang, and Malacca respectively are given in the following statement:—

	Singapore.	Penang.	Malacca.
New accounts opened - - -	465	220	24
Accounts closed - - -	346	106	23
Accounts open at the end of the year -	743	206	38
	$	$	$
Deposited, 1890 - - -	82,085	25,581	4,354
Repaid, 1890 - - - -	83,786	24,203	4,413
Balance due to depositors at close of 1890 - - - - -	95,655	27,289	4,018

EDUCATION.

40. The population of the Colony, while including all nationalities, consists principally of Malays, Chinese, and Tamils from the Madras coast of India.

41. In addition to private schools which give instruction in English and the native languages, the schools of the Colony may be divided into two classes:—

(1.) Schools both Government and aided, in which English is taught to all nationalities.

(2.) Government Malay schools in which Malays are taught their own language.

42. There are also in Singapore and Penang mission schools for Tamils receiving Government aid, in which instruction is given either in Tamil alone or in Tamil and English.

43. From the returns of the 1881 census the number of male children of a school-going age, viz., between the ages of 6 and 15, is as follows:—

Europeans, Eurasians, &c. - -	845
Chinese - - - - -	6,501
Malays - - - - -	18,937
Klings - - - - -	2,590
Other Asiatics - - - -	2,142
Total - - -	31,015

44. The school-going age extends over a period of nine years, while it is found that a Malay boy can acquire a knowledge of the reading and writing of his own language in three years. The total Malay population will, therefore, have been educated if about one third of the number of boys of a school-going age are constantly

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at school. In the case of other languages, and of English, a course of study of about nine years is required. The number of male children for whom education has to be provided may, therefore, be considered to be as follows:—

Europeans, Eurasians, &c. - -	845
Malays, about - - - -	7,000
Other races - - - -	11,233
Total - - -	19,078

This is, however, subject to some doubt as regards the figures for other races, the greater number of whom are male adults unmarried.

The number of male children at present attending is:—

Europeans, Eurasians, &c. - -	744
Malays - - - - -	7,267
Other races - - - -	3,880
Total - - -	11,891

45. The educational progress made during the past 10 years is shown by the following figures:—

	1880.	1890.
Attendance at boys' schools:—		
Government English schools - -	623	1,002
Aided do. - -	2,337	3,793
Government Malay schools - -	1,290	7,072
Total - - - -	4,250	11,867

Not only is there this large increase in the number of pupils in attendance, but there has been a considerable improvement in the condition of the schools, and a very much larger proportion of the pupils now remain at school until they have completed their education. From every point of view, therefore, the progress made during the past 10 years has been most rapid. Great difficulty is still experienced in extending female education. The total number of female children at present receiving instruction in the Government aided and in the private schools of the Colony is about 1,216.

POPULATION.

46. The number of births registered in 1890 in all the settlements was 10,010, of which 5,261 were those of male, and 4,749 those of female children.

47. The deaths registered in 1890 numbered 16,813, as against 18,206 in 1889, or a decrease of 1,393, the highest rate of mortality having been recorded at Singapore. The greatest number of deaths occurred among persons between the ages of 25 and 35, the death-rate being 21·63 of the total number.

48. The following table gives the number of births and deaths registered in each Settlement during the past two years:—

Settlement.	Births.		Deaths.	
	1889.	1890.	1889.	1890.
Singapore - -	2,837	2,799	6,385	6,557
Dindings - -	84	97	104	119
Penang - - -	2,166	1,864	3,998	4,002
Province Wellesley -	3,014	2,697	3,571	2,624
Malacca - - -	3,417	2,553	4,148	3,511
Total -	11,518	10,010	18,206	16,813

49. The population of the Colony, according to the rough totals of the Census taken on the 5th April 1891, as compared with the Census of 1881, is as follows:—

Settlement.	1881.			1891.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Singapore - - - -	105,423	33,785	139,208	141,330	43,224	184,554
Penang, Province Wellesley, and Dindings - - -	124,205	66,392	190,597	149,419	82,061	231,480
Malacca - - - -	52,059	41,520	93,579	49,695	41,255	90,950
Total - - -	281,687	141,697	423,384	340,444	166,540	506,984

Total population of the Colony, 1891, 506,984

Total increase since 1881 - - 83,600 or 19·7 per cent.

Increase in males since 1881 - 58,757 or 20·8 „

Increase in females since 1881 - 24,843 or 17·5 „

Singapore.

Total increase since 1881 -	-	43,346 or 32·5 per cent.
Increase in males since 1881	-	35,907 or 25·4 „
Increase in females since 1881	-	9,439 or 21·3 „

Penang, Province Wellesley and Dindings.

Total increase since 1881 -	-	40,883 or 21·4 „
Increase in males since 1881	-	25,214 or 20·3 „
Increase in females since 1881	-	15,669 or 23 5 „

Malacca

Total decrease since 1881 -	-	2,629 or 2·8 „
Decrease in males since 1881	-	2,364 or 4·5 „
Decrease in females since 1881	-	265 or 0·6 „

50. The population of the Protected Native States in which a census was taken at the same time as that of the Colony is as follows:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Perak - - - -	156,408	57,846	214,254
Selangor - - -	67,048	14,373	81,421
Sungei Ujong - - -	17,234	6,368	23,602
Negri Sembilan - - -	23,327	18,290	41,617
Pahang - - - -	28,032	24,771	52,803
Total - -	292,049	121,648	413,697

CHINESE IMMIGRATION.

51. The total number of Chinese immigrants—men, women and children—was 127,936; this shows a decrease of 22,873 in the number of Chinese immigrants, as compared with the number of Chinese immigrants in 1889. An analysis of this decrease shows that of free immigrants there were 16,625, of unpaid immigrants 6,248, and of female immigrants 529, less than in the previous year.

52. Chinese immigration to the Straits increased steadily from 1880 up to 1888, when it began to steadily decline. It has still continued to decline in 1890. This decline is due to natural

causes, and not to any failure on the part of the Straits Settlements as a Colony to offer less attraction to Chinese immigrants than before. This decline in Chinese immigration is chiefly due to the falling off in the demand for tin labour in the Native States; for example, in 1887 as many as 16,714 Chinese immigrants were signed on to work in Perak and Selangor in the tin mines; in 1890 only 3,934 contracts were made by Chinese immigrants for the two States. The competition of Sumatra and Borneo for cooly labour has further diminished Chinese immigration to the Straits. Since the planting associations of these two countries have opened up a direct route from Swatow and Hong Kong to Borneo and Sumatra, the immigration from Swatow and Hong Kong to the Straits has fallen off very considerably. There can be no doubt, too, that the general depression of trade in 1890 decreased the demand for labour throughout the Colony and Native States. The number of unpaid Chinese immigrants that arrived in the Colony was 14,965. Of this number 8,152 entered the depôts licensed by the Government in Singapore, and 6,813 were admitted into the licensed depôts in Penang. The number of unpaid Chinese passengers that arrived in the Colony in 1889 was 21,213. This shows a decrease of 6,248 in 1890 in the number of Chinese immigrants whose passages were unpaid. The same causes that have tended to decrease the general flow of Chinese immigration into the Colony, have no doubt acted on the unpaid passenger immigration in a similar way. A decision of the Supreme Court as to the meaning of "unpaid passenger," when the judges construed it to mean a passenger still owing money to the vessel which brought him, caused a panic among the depôt-keepers in the Straits and the recruiting agencies in Hong Kong and China, in consequence of which Ordinance I. of 1891 was passed.

53. There was a falling off of 529 in the number of women who arrived in the Colony as against 1889. Of the 5,542 females who arrived, 3,820 landed in Singapore, 1,710 proceeded to Penang, and 12 to other ports.

54. There were 26,204 contracts to labour executed in the Colony, as against 32,666 in 1889, showing a decrease of 6,462 in the number of contracts signed for the year. Coolie contracts to the Dutch possessions decreased by 3,140, and to the Native States by 1,525, as compared with 1889. The number of contracts made for Province Wellesley was only 1,235, the lowest number of contracts on record. This falling off in the number of contracts can only be attributed to the fact that the Dutch are succeeding in getting their labour direct from China, and that the surface tin mining industry of the Native States does not now pay as well as it formerly did. The general tightness of the money market, too, has no doubt tended to diminish the demand for labour. Of the total number of contracts (26,204) signed in the Colony, 6,502 were made for labour in the Colony and Protected Native States, and 19,702 for labour in other places.

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INDIAN IMMIGRATION.

55. During the year, 2,960 statute immigrants with 158 dependents arrived in the Colony for service in the Settlements and Native States, showing an increase of 213 on the figures for the previous year. 18,301 immigrants not under agreements also arrived in the Colony, showing an increase of 3,016 as compared with the number in 1889.

56. The following table gives the statistics of the department since 1880:—

——	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.
Immigrants under indenture -	1,191	879	1,452	1,450	1,539	1,642	2,748	4,736	4,684	2,747	2,960
Dependents - -	107	159	209	176	177	49	244	310	317	104	158
Free immigrants	3,755	5,769	8,276	8,979	14,365	19,819	17,316	12,156	15,812	15,285	18,301
Total arrivals -	5,053	6,807	9,937	10,605	16,081	21,510	20,308	17,202	20,813	18,136	21,419
Returned to India	—	5,269	5,947	9,041	10,749	13,417	18,105	12,596	13,190	14,099	15,276
Remained in the Colony - -	—	1,538	3,990	1,564	5,332	8,093	2,203	4,606	7,623	4,037	6,143

The years 1885 and 1886 were, however, exceptional years, as extraordinary facilities were afforded to immigrants by the competition that existed between two rival lines of steamers. The figures for the past year compare favourably on the whole with those for the two preceding years.

TRADE AND SHIPPING.

57. Towards the close of the year the import and export branch of the Master Attendant's Office was re-organised, and a registrar of imports and exports was appointed. The trade returns are now dealt with in a more systematic and thorough manner, conducive to as great accuracy as the conditions of a free port will allow.

58. The following tables give the value of the imports and exports at the three Settlements in 1889 and 1890 respectively :—

Imports.

——		Singapore.	Penang.	Malacca.
MERCHANDISE.		$	$	$
United Kingdom - -	1890	15,862,524	4,000,856	—
	1889	15,512,690	3,543,618	—
British Possessions - -	1890	23,634,101	15,718,175	—
	1889	26,295,625	13,417,584	—
Foreign Countries - -	1890	53,224,760	18,378,036	461,502
	1889	55,087,572	19,079,141	610,372

		Singapore.	Penang.	Malacca.
		$	$	$
MERCHANDISE—*cont.*				
Between the Settlements	1890	6,735,380	1,802,293	1,616,896
	1889	5,575,497	1,984,126	1,470,272
Total Value of Merchandise	1890	99,456,765	39,899,360	2,078,398
	1889	102,471,384	38,024,469	2,080,644
TREASURE.				
Total Value of Treasure	1890	13,177,195	3,889,040	149,953
	1889	8,275,206	5,156,928	190,430
Total Imports of Merchandise and Treasure.	1890	112,633,960	43,788,400	2,228,351
	1889	110,746,590	43,181,397	2,271,074
Grand Total Value of Imports of the Straits Settlements	1890			158,650,711
	1889			156,199,061

Exports.

		Singapore.	Penang.	Malacca.
		$	$	$
MERCHANDISE.				
United Kingdom	1890	18,246,593	6,512,954	—
	1889	18,944,967	8,303,661	—
British Possessions	1890	11,113,835	7,694,000	—
	1889	9,349,489	5,504,158	—
Foreign Countries	1890	47,629,595	16,017,040	279,326
	1889	50,635,375	16,914,808	356,695
Between the Settlements	1890	2,059,115	5,205,232	1,733,204
	1889	1,735,726	5,237,387	2,049,559
Total Value of Merchandise	1890	79,049,138	35,429,226	2,012,530
	1889	80,665,557	35,960,014	2,406,254
TREASURE.				
Total Value of Treasure	1890	15,082,666	5,920,021	231,563
	1889	8,017,577	5,873,474	296,405
Total Exports of Merchandise and Treasure.	1890	94,131,804	41,349,247	2,244,093
	1889	88,683,134	41,833,488	2,702,659
Grand Total Value of Exports of the Straits Settlements	1890			137,725,144
	1889			133,219,281

59. It will be seen from the above tables that while there is an increase in the total value of both imports and exports compared with the previous year, this is entirely due to the trade in treasure,

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

and that there is a decline under both heads in the real trade of the Colony.

In the total imports, Singapore and Penang show increases, while Malacca declines; and in the total exports, Singapore alone gives an increased value.

60. The falling off is accounted for by the severe depression of trade which existed throughout the year. The local money market was depressed in consequence of mining speculations in the first half of 1889, which seriously crippled the resources, more especially, of the Chinese trading community, and resulted in a large number of business failures. This state of affairs was intensified by falling prices in th home markets.

61. In looking at these figures it is to be remembered that in comparing any two or more years a not insignificant factor has to be considered in the fluctuations in exchange. Thus in 1890 the average value in sterling of the dollar gave an increase of over 9 per cent. above the average of 1889, and it is obvious that in any comparison of quantities and values this difference must be kept in view, as a smaller value might not mean a lesser quantity, or a cheaper class of goods.

62. A very considerable decrease in the export trade with the Netherlands India is observable, and there are also decreases in value from Selangor and Sungei Ujong; but a greater quantity of tin was received from Selangor than in 1889. The tin imported from Malacca and the West Malay Peninsula was less by 730 tons.

63. It will be noticed that, for the first time, the value of treasure is shown separate from that of merchandise.

64. The following are a few of the principal imports to and exports from the Straits Settlements:—

Imports.

	1889.	1890.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Pieces.	Pieces.		
Cotton piece goods -	4,674,674	7,117,374	2,442,700	—
	Tons.	Tons.		
Coal - - -	367,528	324,624	—	42,904
	Pikuls.	Pikuls.		
Rice - - -	5,131,015	6,762,772	1,631,757	—
	Chests.	Chests.		
Opium - - -	15,511	14,448	—	1,063
	Pieces.	Pieces.		
Silk piece goods - -	277,167	377,905	100,738	—

Exports.

——	1889.	1890.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Pikuls.	Pikuls.		
Coffee - - -	72,975	47,657	—	25,318
Gambier - - -	720,931 50/100	769,704 50/100	48,773	—
Gums - - -	165,582	173,051 50/100	7,469 50/100	—
Spices - - -	731,037	785,371	54,334	—
Tapioca - - -	391,955	544,404	152,449	—
Tin - - -	554,747	537,190	—	17,557

65. The following shows the amounts of revenue collected by the Marine Department in each Settlement during 1889 and 1890:—

——	Singapore.	Penang.	Malacca.	Total.
	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.
1890 - - -	73,728 75	27,217 60	1,731 91	102,678 26
1889 - - -	77,822 06	29,517 53	2,186 76	109,526 35

66. The following is a summary of the shipping of the Colony during 1889 and 1890:—

SHIPPING.

Square-rigged Vessels.

——	Singapore.		Penang.		Malacca.		Total.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
Arrivals, 1890 -	3,646	2,989,059	3,050	1,653,285	1,414	217,376	8,110	4,859,720
Do. 1889 -	3,867	3,065,732	2,935	1,592,626	928	183,286	7,730	4,841,644
Departures, 1890 -	3,621	2,955,975	3,028	1,644,976	1,419	217,988	8,068	4,818,939
Do. 1889 -	3,848	3,048,245	2,917	1,584,910	927	182,151	7,692	4,815,306
Total, 1890 -	7,267	5,945,034	6,078	3,298,261	2,833	435,364	16,178	9,678,659
Do. 1889 -	7,715	6,113,977	5,852	3,177,536	1,855	365,437	15,422	9,656,950

Native Craft and Steamers under 50 Tons.

	Singapore.		Penang.		Malacca.		Total.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
Arrivals, 1890 -	5,546	208,689	5,650	118,181	2,141	33,059	13,337	359,929
Do. 1889 -	6,619	254,722	5,483	127,416	2,387	46,162	14,489	428,300
Departures, 1890 -	5,515	212,636	5,641	117,887	2,178	33,701	13,334	364,224
Do. 1889 -	6,563	253,467	3,712	91,715	2,417	46,837	12,692	392,019
Total, 1890 -	11,061	421,325	11,291	236,068	4,319	66,760	26,671	724,153
Do. 1889 -	13,182	508,189	9,195	219,131	4,804	92,999	27,181	820,319

REGISTRY OF SHIPPING.

New Vessels built.

	No.	Tonnage.
Singapore, 1890 - - -	79	4,727
Do., 1889 - - -	87	5,288

67. Singapore has a decrease in number and tonnage in both classes of vessels, Penang an increase all over, and Malacca an increase in square-rigged vessels only.

68. The decreases in revenue are caused by the falling off in shipping and a change of system in collecting the light dues from local vessels.

69. The relative importance of shipping and commerce in 1889 and 1890 for Singapore and Penang is shown by the following returns:—

SHIPPING (EXCLUSIVE OF NATIVE CRAFT).

Singapore.

1889 - 7,715 vessels measuring 6,113,977 tons.
1890 - 7,267 „ „ 5,945,034 „

Penang.

1889 - 5,852 vessels measuring 3,177,536 tons.
1890 - 6,078 „ „ 3,293,645 „

TRADE.

Singapore

	$
1889 - - - -	199,429,724
1890 - - - -	206,765,764

Penang.

	$
1889 - - - -	85,014,885
1890 - - - -	85,137,647

LIGHTHOUSES.

70. The lighthouses, launches, buoys, and beacons have been kept in an efficient condition. The newly appointed engineer has arrived, and commenced work.

The lightship on Ajax Shoal was established in February 1890, and has proved an immense boon to shipping, enabling vessels to gain considerable time in approaching the new harbour in the mornings, and to leave at a later hour in the afternoon with perfect safety.

The new and more powerful harbour gas light on Fort Canning was exhibited in May 1890, and now shows over 20 miles. Numerous reports have been received from shipmasters stating that it gives an entirely satisfactory light and can no longer be mistaken for the riding lights of vessels at anchor.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

71. The health of the Straits Settlements has been good during the past year, there having been, with the exception of an outbreak of influenza in the early part of the year throughout the Colony, no prevalence of any epidemic disease in any one of the Settlements.

72. A new hospital was opened during the year in Province Wellesley, at Bukit Mertajam, one that existed formerly at Bukit Minyak having been pulled down. The situation of the new hospital appears to be far more advantageous in every way than that of the former one.

73. The following table gives the number of patients treated, and of the deaths among them, during 1890, as compared with 1889:—

Year	Number of Patients treated.			Number of Deaths.			Percentage of Deaths to Total treated.		
	Europeans.	Natives.	Total.	Europeans.	Natives.	Total.	Europeans.	Natives.	Total.
1890 - - -	832	19,947	20,779	37	2,414	2,451	4·44	12·10	11·79
1889 - - -	1,030	20,426	21,456	51	2,297	2,348	4·95	11·24	10·94

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

74. The following table shows the number of patients treated, and the deaths that occurred in hospital in each of the Settlements :—

Settlement.	Total treated.	Deaths.
Singapore - - - -	9,632	1,071
Penang and the Dindings - -	5,801	552
Province Wellesley - -	1,908	295
Malacca - - - -	3,436	534

75. The numbers in the leper hospital, Singapore, and leper asylum, Penang, during 1889 and 1890, were as follows :—

Hospitals.	1889.				1890.			
	Cases.	Died.	Discharged or Absconded.	Remained.	Cases.	Died.	Discharged or Absconded.	Remained.
Leper Hospital - - -	93	26	45	22	132	18	87	27
Leper Asylum, Pulau Jerejak -	280	100	20	160	155	91	40	24

BANKRUPTCY ORDINANCE.

76. The Official Assignee reporting on the working of the Bankruptcy Ordinance, 1888, states as follows :—

The total number of receiving orders made and proceeded with during the year 1890 was :—

	No. of Proceedings.	No. of Debtors.
In Singapore - - -	54	60
In Penang - - - -	7	7
In Malacca - - - -	—	—
Total - -	61	67

which, compared with the bankruptcy proceedings in 1889, shows an increase in the three Settlements of 16 estates.

77. The following table will show the estimated loss to creditors in the three Settlements. The estimate is, however, that of the debtors themselves, and the actual loss will probably far exceed this estimate :—

Settlement.	Estimated Assets.	Estimated Liabilities.	Nett estimated Loss to Creditors.
	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.
Singapore - -	402,065 05	862,627 64	460,562 59
Penang - - -	6,297 60	69,599 84	63,302 24
Malacca - - -	—	—	—
Total - -	408,362 65	932,227 48	523,864 83

78. Six compositions or schemes of arrangements were sanctioned by the Supreme Court, as against three in 1889. Out of 829 creditors scheduled by debtors in their statements of affairs, 692 lodged proofs of their claims amounting to $940,833 55. The number of proofs lodged exceeded by 278 those lodged in 1889.

REGISTRATION OF JOINT STOCK COMPANIES.

79. The number of joint stock companies registered during the year was as follows :—

	Number.	Amount of Capital.
		$
Singapore - - - -	5	1,035,350
Penang - - - -	2	509,000
Total - -	7	1,544,350

METEOROLOGY.

80. The following statement shows the maximum, minimum, and mean temperature of the air at each of the Settlements during the year :—

	Maximum.	Minimum.	Mean.
	Fahr. ° ′	Fahr. ° ′	Fahr. ° ′
Singapore - - - -	91 2	67 5	78 9
Penang - - - -	93 0	69 5	80 0
Province Wellesley - - -	93 5	70 0	82 7
Malacca - - - -	90 0	65 4	81 8

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

81. Complete returns of rainfall for the whole year were received from 39 stations in the Colony. The heaviest rainfall was in Penang and Singapore.

82. The following table shows the total rainfall at each of the Settlements, the maximum and minimum rainfall registered in one month, and the maximum in 24 hours:—

Settlement.	Total Rainfall.	Maximum Fall in one Month.	Minimum Fall in one Month.	Maximum Fall in 24 hours.
	Inches.	Ins.	Ins.	Inches.
Singapore - -	117·78	July - 22·28	May - 2·94	6·85
Penang - -	139·69	July - 35·96	Dec. - 0·31	8·95
Province Wellesley.	100·40	Oct. - 24·20	Dec. - 0·42	10·00
Malacca - -	72·29	Jan. - 20·50	June - 0·20	8·50
Dindings - -	82·29	Aug. - 11·85	Dec. - 0·41	4·50

POLICE AND CRIME.

83. The report of the committee appointed in 1889 to inquire into and suggest remedies for the unsatisfactory state of the administration and work of the police force was issued and dealt with in 1890. Some of the chief recommendations of the committee adopted after full consideration by the Executive Council were:—

(*a.*) The Inspector-General of Police to be Inspecting Officer for the three Settlements, and not, as hitherto, chief police officer in Singapore, the chief police officer at each Settlement, including Singapore, being the Superintendent.

(*b.*) Higher rates of pay to be given to the Native contingent — Sikhs, Malays, and Klings.

(*c.*) Introduction of Chinese constables.

(*d.*) Police regulations to be compiled anew.

(*e.*) The higher appointments in the police to be filled by the cadets of the Civil Service.

84. The authorised strength of the police force at the end of 1890 was:—

1 Inspector-General.
3 Superintendents.
3 Assistant Superintendents.
3 Chief Inspecto s.
21 Inspectors.
66 European contingent of all ranks.
229 Sikh contingent of all ranks.
1,813 Malay, Kling and Chinese contingent of all ranks.

But there still was a deficiency in the Malay and Kling contingent in all three Settlements.

85. The report on the conduct of the European contingent is not entirely favourable, and the Malays and Klings show no improvement, but the Sikhs are said to have given satisfaction.

86. One hundred and fifty-eight (158) men were dismissed from the force during the year for police offences, and 56 cases were sent for trial before the Magistrates of Police.

87. The number of cases reported to the police was 962 more, and the number of arrests 3,374 less, than 1889. There was a considerable increase in the number of serious cases.

88. The Inspector-General of Police reports that the secret societies were suppressed under the law on 1st July 1890. In the latter part of 1890 a society having for its motto "Sui Lok Ping On," meaning "Peace and comfort by sea and land," by which name it is called, but more truly and commonly known as the "Broken Coffin Society," the operations of which consisted chiefly in the blackmailing and robbing on board ship of passengers between the Straits and China, showed itself in strength, but the banishment of two of its leaders completely stopped its operations for a time.

JUDICIAL.

89. There was a small increase in the number of prisoners brought before the Supreme Court during the year. The percentage of convictions was 73, as compared with 63 in 1889.

90. The total number of civil cases showed a decrease, but the amount involved was $5,700,000, as compared with $3,100,000 in the previous year.

91. There were 89 bankruptcy petitions, as compared with 49 in 1889.

92. The number of prisoners brought before the police and marine magistrates was less than in 1889, and the cases instituted in the courts of requests (which have jurisdiction when the amount does not exceed $50) also showed a decrease.

PRISONS.

93. The statistics of the prisons of the Colony differ little from those for the year 1889, though there is a slight increase in the numbers, as might be expected with the increasing population.

94. The conduct of the native prisoners was better than in 1889. The number of minor offences showed a decrease, and the serious offences were only about half as many as in the previous year. There were no serious cases of assault on prison officers, and only one escape, the prisoner being recaptured a few days later. Three cases of suicide by hanging, all of Chinese, occurred in the Singapore Prison.

95. The health of the prisoners in all three Settlements was good.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

96. The penal scale of diet used since 1887 for all prisoners of six weeks and under was extended during the year to all prisoners sentenced to three months and under. The reports called for later on showed that the extension had no prejudicial effect on the health or discipline of the prisoners, while a very substantial saving in the cost of the prison rations resulted, the total annual saving to the Colony being between $6,000 and $7,000.

THE DINDINGS.

97. The revenue for 1890 was $1,018 11 below that of 1889, the Opium Farm being reduced in proportion with the Penang Farm. The land revenue was also slightly less than in 1889, being $7,038 50 against $7,626 75. The offices have, with the exception of the Post Office, been all removed from Pangkor to Lumut, where a timber depôt for the Colony has been established.

There have been cases of fever at the new station, but they have generally been of a slight character, and on the whole Lumut appears to be healthy.

(Signed) J. F. DICKSON,
Colonial Secretary,
Straits Settlements.

Singapore, 17th August 1891.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 21.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1890.

(In continuation of Colonial Report No. 108, Old Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

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1892.

[C.—6563.-5.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

No.	Colony.	Year.
88	Mauritius, Seychelles, and Rodrigues	1888
89	Zululand	1889
90	Gibraltar	,,
91	Grenada	,,
92	Bermuda	,,
93	St. Vincent	1888
94	St. Vincent	1889
95	Bahamas	,,
96	St. Lucia	,,
97	British Bechuanaland	1888–9
98	Turks and Caicos	1889
99	Gambia	,,
100	Straits Settlements	,,
101	St. Kitts-Nevis	1886
102	Basutoland (Governor's Visit)	1890
103	British New Guinea	1888–9
104	Natal	1889
105	Malta	,,
106	British Guiana	,,
107	Barbados	,,
108	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
109	Western Australia	1889
110	Gold Coast (Agriculture)	1890
111	Labuan	1889
112	Jamaica	,,
113	Falklands Islands	,,
114	Basutoland	1889–90
115	Sierra Leone	1889
116	Fiji	,,
117	Hong Kong	,,
118	St. Helena	,,

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1	British Honduras	1889
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6	British New Guinea	1889–93
7	St. Vincent	1890
8	Bermuda	,,
9	Leeward Islands	1889
10	St. Lucia	1890
11	Bahamas	,,
12	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
13	Gibraltar	,,
14	Zululand	,,
15	Sierra Leone	,,
16	Barbados	,,
17	Falkland Islands	,,
18	Labuan	,,
19	British Honduras	,,
20	Basutoland	1980–9

No. 21.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.

[In continuation of Colonial Report No. 108, Old Series.]

Sir WM. ROBINSON to LORD KNUTSFORD.

MY LORD, Trinidad, July 1, 1891.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the Blue Book of the Colony of Trinidad and Tobago for the year 1890. The Report of the Commissioner of Tobago on the Returns relating to that island is appended.

Taxes and Duties.

The schedule of taxes and duties remained the same as in 1889, with the exception that cocoanuts were added to list of products on which an export duty is levied for immigration purposes.

It was argued by the sugar planters and cocoa proprietors, and very properly so, that as the owners of cocoanut estates were now allowed a direct share in the benefits of immigration, they ought directly to contribute towards its cost. An export duty at the rate of 1*s.* 6*d.* per thousand was accordingly imposed on cocoanuts, but this was, with your Lordship's approval, subsequently reduced to 1*s.* per thousand as being a more equitable charge.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue of the year was 468,559*l.* 12*s.* 3½*d.* and the expenditure 475,244*l.* 4*s.* 11*d.*, showing that the payments exceeded the receipts by 6,684*l.* 12*s.* 7½*d.*

The revenue, however, exceeded the estimate framed for the year by 1,688*l.* 13*s.* 11½*d.*, and was in excess of the amount collected in 1889 by 15,285*l.* 0*s.* 1½*d.*

The principal items which contributed towards this increase were—

Head of Service.	Receipts in 1889.	Receipts in 1890.	Increase.
	£	£	£
Customs - - - -	190,684	206,262	15,578
Land Revenue - - - -	16,063	16,820	757
Land and House Tax - - -	30,903	31,689	786
Postage - - - -	6,823	7,732	909
Fees of Office - - - -	3,182	3,739	557
Miscellaneous Receipts - - -	661	1,294	633
Interest - - - -	5,690	6,113	423
Legacy Duty - - -	747	1,287	540
Railway - - -	51,054	51,912	858

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TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.

On the other hand there was a falling off in the receipts from the following sources :—

Head of Service.	Receipts in 1889.	Receipts in 1890.	Decrease.
	£	£	£
Excise - - - - -	96,431	92,752	3,679
Licenses - - - -	26,151	25,321	830
Fines, forfeitures, and fees of court -	9,343	8,995	348
Re-imbursements in aid - -	12,361	11,643	718

The decline in the Excise revenue, to which I last year drew attention, still continues. This, although tending to disturb the equilibrium of the Budget, is nevertheless a matter for congratulation, if it is attributable to a falling off in the consumption of alcohol. I append a table showing the receipts for the last 10 years —

Year.	Duty per Gallon.	Rum Duty.	Import Duty.	Total.
		£	£	£
1881 - - - -	5*s.*	93,651	1,436	95,087
1882 - - - -	6*s.*	84,481	20,091	104,572
1883 - - - -		83,703	21,269	104,972
1884 - - - -		96,805	7,321	104,126
1885 - - - -		86,061	5,530	91,591
1886 - - - -	6*s.* 6*d.*	93,656	2,448	96,104
1887 - - - -		98,754	1,549	100,303
1888 - - - -		103,498	820	104,318
1889 - - - -		96,431	672	97,103
1890 - - - -		92,752	155	92,907

The revenue derived from the Pitch Lake in 1890 was :—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Export duty - - -	21,040	8	4
Royalty - - - -	5,703	18	4
	26,744	6	8

Expenditure.

The expenditure exceeded the estimate for the year by 13,306*l.* 10*s.* 11½*d.* and the payments in 1889 by 12,022*l.* 12*s.* 9*d.*

The principal items which exceeded the estimates made for them were:

Head of Service.	Estimate for 1890.	Expenditure 1890.	Excess.
	£	£	£
Pensions - - - -	9,450	10,479	1,029
Police—exclusive of establishment -	7,726	8,054	328
Hospitals - - - -	35,725	38,073	2,348
Transport - - - -	600	930	330
Miscellaneous services - - -	8,771	16,609	7,838
Interest - - - -	3,600	3,997	397
Drawbacks and refund of duties -	5,000	5,408	408
Botanic Gardens - - -	2,000	2,553	553
Military - - -	2,500	4,577	2,077
Public works - - - -	71,223	74,810	3,587

Under the following Heads of Service the Expenditure was less than the Estimate:—

Head of Service.	Estimate for 1890.	Expenditure 1890.	Less than Estimate.
	£	£	£
Establishments - - -	152,296	151,711	585
Education - - - -	22,205	22,074	131
Gaols - - - -	7,001	6,930	71
Rent - - - - -	930	614	316
Postage - - - -	2,110	1,980	130
Immigration - - - -	18,291	17,097	1,194
Lands - - - - -	6,000	4,006	1,994
Railway Working Expenses - -	25,950	24,514	1,436
Wards - - - - -	9,496	9,297	199

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.

I append a Statement of the Revenue and Expenditure of the last 10 years.

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1881 - - - -	392,442	426,210
1882 - - - -	400,936	406,153
1883 - - - -	419,573	433,017
1884 - - - -	435,381	420,569
1885 - - - -	398,100	413,785
	2,046,432	2,099,734
1886 - - - -	425,896	412,167
1887 - - - -	456,167	424,594
1888 - - - -	457,814	440,636
1889 - - - -	453,275	463,221
1890 - - - -	468,559	475,244
	2,261,711	2,215,862

It will be seen that in the five years from 1881 to 1885, the Expenditure was 53,302*l.* in excess of the Revenue, whereas in the five years from 1886 to 1890 the Revenue was 45,849*l.* in excess of the Expenditure.

Legislation.

Forty Ordinances were enacted during the year. Their titles are given below:—

No. 1. For the establishment and maintenance of Reformatory Schools.

2. To declare the application to Tobago of the Excise Law of Trinidad so far as it relates to Rum and other Spirits, and to amend the same in certain particulars.

3. For the prevention of wilful trespass on lands in Tobago.

4. To make provision for granting Pensions to Widows and Children of deceased Public Officers of this Colony.

5. To amend the Ordinance No. 24 of 1889, intituled "An Ordinance for raising Funds in aid of Immigration for the year 1890."

No. 6. To amend the Law relating to the care of Lepers and Paupers in Hospitals and Asylums.
7. For the better regulation of the duties on Postage and for the management of the Post Office.
8. To prevent the introduction of Diseased Sugar Canes into the Colony.
9. To authorise the raising of a sum not exceeding one hundred thousand pounds for Road extension and Public Works.
10. To establish a Public Works and Road Loan Board for certain purposes.
11. To extend the provisions of "The Negotiable Instruments Ordinance, 1879."
12. To incorporate a Company to be called "The Trinidad Mutual Fire Insurance Company, Limited."
13. To repeal the Ordinance No. 14 of 1889, and to make better provision respecting the removal of Prisoners and Criminal Lunatics from places without Her Majesty's Dominions in which Her Majesty exercises Jurisdiction over British subjects.
14. To ratify and confirm the Supplemental Estimates for the Service of the year 1889 and the issue of certain Moneys paid for the Service of the Government of the Island of Trinidad during the same year.
15. To authroise the Mayor and Burgesses of Port-of-Spain to raise certain moneys to be expended in the improvement of the Borough of Port-of-Spain.
16. To amend "The Real Property Ordinance, 1889."
17. To repeal the Laws relating to Primary Education in the Colony, and to make other provision in lieu thereof.
18. To amend "The Widows' and Orphans' Fund Ordinance, 1890."
19. To amend "The Trinidad Mutual Fire Insurance Company's Ordinance, 1890."
20. For the prevention of Accidents by Fire in Tobago.
21. To facilitate the incorporation of Associations formed for purposes not of gain.
22. To enable the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Port-of-Spain to deal with Real Property vested in him as a Body Corporate.
23. To amend the designation of the Chief Officer of Police.
24. To consolidate and amend certain Ordinances relating to the Public Library in Port-of-Spain, and to incorporate the Committee thereof.
25. To provide for the amendment of the existing Assessments of Lands and Houses liable to Land Tax, and to amend and declare the Law relating to the recovery of Land Tax.
26. To amend "The Savings Bank Ordinance, 1889."

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No. 27. For taking the Census of the Colony for the year 1891.
28. To declare the terms and conditions applicable to Loans authorised to be raised by the Government of Trinidad and Tobago, and to provide for the creation of Trinidad Inscribed Stock.
29. To amend the Customs Laws.
30. For the destruction of the Nests of Parasol Ants.
31. To amend "The Road Extension and Public Works Loan Ordinance, 1890."
32. To amend the Ordinance No. 6 of 1868, intituled "An "Ordinance for rendering certain Offences punishable "on Summary Conviction."
33. To regulate Public Baths.
34. To make provision for defraying the Expenses of the Government of the Island of Trinidad for the year 1891.
35. For raising Funds in aid of Immigration for the year 1891.
36. To amend "The Reformatory Schools Ordinance, 1890."
37. To amend "The Post Office Ordinance, 1890."
38. To amend the Law as to Juries in Tobago.
39. To amend the Ordinance No. 29 of 1890, intituled "An Ordinance to amend the Customs Laws," and to suspend the operation thereof.
40. To provide for the establishment of Building Societies and to regulate the same.

In most cases the titles of these Ordinances are sufficient to explain their object.

The Roman Catholic Reformatory School for girls was opened in June and that under the management of the Church of England, for boys, in September. Both institutions are working in a satisfactory manner and are evidently supplying a long-felt want.

The Ordinance, No. 17, with regard to education is certainly the most important enactment of the year, and I regret that I am unable to report that it has been sufficient as yet to settle definitely this long standing question. The many small assisted schools recognised by the former Board of Education having the right to claim aid under the new scheme, it has been found that the expenditure entailed by the provisions of Ordinance No. 17, would amount to an annual sum of not less than 40,000*l.*, and this could only be met by the imposition of an education rate, which I am not prepared to recommend at present. The newly appointed Board has, however, been working zealously and loyally, and I trust that the amending Ordinance which has been submitted to your Lordship, which in no way sacrifices the principles of the original scheme, will remove existing difficulties, and prove acceptable to all parties.

Another important enactment is that relating to the "assessment of lands and "houses" which has been introduced not so much with the view of altering the previous law as to declare it,

the courts of law and the legal advisers of the Crown being of opinion that the practice hitherto prevailing in the preparation of the assessment rolls has not been in accordance with the intention of the law. There have been some few difficulties experienced in grafting the new system upon the old, but when once these have been cleared away, the law will I trust work smoothly, and the more careful and detailed assessment required result in an increased revenue from this source.

The Ordinance for the "Destruction of Parasol Ants," No. 30, has been introduced in the hopes of providing a means for mitigating the ravages of the leaf-cutting ant (*Atta cephalotes*), which in some districts does great damage to the crops of the husbandman. The Ordinance, which gives power to the injured party, under certain safeguards, to enter in a proclaimed district upon the land of his neighbours and destroy nests affecting his property, was the outcome of considerable discussion, but in the opinion of some does not provide a sufficient remedy for the evil. It is impossible to form an opinion on the subject, as, although the law has been in operation for six months, only one application, and that but recently, has yet been made to me to proclaim any district under the Ordinance.

It will be seen that during the year the affairs of Tobago occupied a very fair share of the deliberations of the Legislative Council.

I much regret that it has been found necessary to encumber the Statute Book with so many amending Ordinances.

Councils.

In March 1890, the Auditor-General of the Colony took his seat for the first time as a member of the Executive Council, and in August the Commandant of the Volunteer Forces was also nominated a member of that body.

In the Legislative Council Mr. W. G. Gordon was appointed to represent Port-of-Spain in the place of the late Mr. F. Warner, C.M.G., Mr. J. Bell-Smyth was selected to sit as member for the Tacarigua district on the number of unofficial members being increased to 10, and Mr. E. Lange was appointed in the place of Mr. T. A. Finlayson, member for La Brea.

By the increase of the number of unofficial members that section of the Council is now in the majority.

Civil Establishment.

No vacancy occurred among the Heads of Departments during the year. During the absence on leave and the subsequent serious indisposition of Mr. Fowler, the office of Colonial Secretary was filled first by Mr. H. W Chantrell and afterwards, on that officer proceeding on leave of absence, by Mr. C. B. Hamilton. Mr. C. B. Hamilton acted as Auditor-General on the first occasion

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and Mr. D. B. Horsford on the second, Mr. A. C. Ross performing the duties of Receiver-General for both periods.

Lieut.-Colonel McInnis, C.M.G., assumed the command of the Local Volunteer Forces on the 27th of June.

The Colony lost during the year by death, the services of Mr. A. B. Stollemeyer, Assistant Engineer in the Public Works Department, and of three Government medical officers, Doctors Jenvey, De Montbrun and Pasley. In each of these the Public Service suffered a loss, but this was especially so in the case of Dr. C. B. Pasley, an officer of great ability and unflagging zeal.

In August Mr. S. H. Gatty, Attorney-General, was appointed one of Her Majesty's Counsel for the Island of Trinidad.

Vital Statistics.

In his very elaborate and valuable report on the statistics of the year 1890 the Acting Registrar-General, Mr. H. J. Clark, has pointed out that in the former years of the past decade the population of the Colony appears to have been considerably underestimated. The following return will show the extent to which this has been the case :—

Year.	Estimated Population.	Mr. Clark's Estimate.
1881 - - - -	153,128	156,616
1882 - - -	157,628	163,507
1883 - - - -	162,128	169,680
1884 - - - -	166,628	175,810
1885 - - - -	171,914	181,454
1886 - - - -	178,270	188,298
1887 - - - -	183,486	193,785
1888 - - - -	189,566	198,934
1889 - - - -	196,192	205,047
1890 - - - -	—	211,013

The recent Census Returns, however, go to prove that Mr. Clark's estimate is rather over the mark.

The mean population of the year has been estimated at 208,030, made up as follows :—

General population - - -	139,030
Natives of India - - -	44,500
Born of East Indian parents - -	24,500
	208,030

986 marriages were celebrated during 1890, the largest number that, except in the calamitous cholera year (1854), have ever been recorded in any one year. They were divided as under :—

Roman Catholic Church - - -	486
Church of England - - -	301
Wesleyan Church - - - -	81
Presbyterian Church - - -	74
Baptist Missionary Society - -	28
Before the Registrar - - -	16
	986

44·8 per cent. of the persons married were unable to sign the marriage register.

The births and deaths of the year were as follows :—

	Indian Immigrants.	Other Population.	Total.	Rate per 1,000.
Births - - - -	1,927	4,730	6,657	32·
Deaths - - - -	1,828	3,784	5,612	26·97

The birth and death rates of these two sections of the community are given below :—

	Birth-rate per 1,000.	Death-rate per 1,000.
General population—139,030 -	34·02	27·22
Immigrant population—69,000 -	27·93	26·49

Imports and Exports.

The value of the imports of 1890 was 2,248,893*l.*, and of the exports 2,179,432*l.*

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The following tables will show the growth and variation of trade in the last 10 years :—

TABLE I.

Year.	Imports.		Exports.	
	Total Value.	Value, exclusive of Bullion and Specie.	Total Value.	Value, exclusive of Bullion and Specie.
1881 - - -	2,226,276	1,615,088	2,099,101	1,462,761
1882 - - -	2,399,795	1,612,564	2,452,033	1,729,418
1883 - - -	2,663,022	1,693,264	2,686,670	1,759,376
1884 - - -	3,083,870	1,831,903	2,769,727	1,581,092
1885 - - -	2,241,478	1,512,314	2,246,664	1,539,243
1886 - - -	2,503,514	1,543,507	2,509,140	1,560,336
1887 - - -	1,918,670	1,647,029	1,870,612	1,654,269
1888 - - -	1,943,789	1,678,972	2,132,761	1,904,192
1889 - - -	2,093,932	1,679,944	2,308,832	1,856,651
1890 - - -	2,248,893	1,831,803	2,179,432	1,765,931

TABLE I

Year.	Imports.			Exports.		
	From United Kingdom.	From other British Colonies.	From Foreign Countries.	To United Kingdom.	To other British Colonies.	To Foreign Countries.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1881	828,444	229,211	1,168,621	995,925	112,016	991,160
1882	808,371	234,323	1,357,100	1,076,456	137,628	1,237,949
1883	877,916	269,554	1,515,552	813,574	101,799	1,771,297
1884	887,011	254,339	1,942,520	863,290	91,795	1,814,642
1885	654,704	240,523	1,346,251	1,186,420	53,286	1,006,958
1886	666,499	271,004	1,566,011	949,622	54,809	1,504,709
1887	751,510	276,281	890,879	748,551	44,796	1,077,265
1888	794,427	212,547	936,815	861,634	60,338	1,210,789
1889	763,891	207,849	1,122,192	972,473	56,960	1,279,399
1890	822,280	228,087	1,198,526	857,024	111,012	1,211,396

It is a noticeable fact that in the expansion of trade that has taken place in these 10 years the United Kingdom has had no share, but that on the contrary the commercial ties which bind the Colony to the mother country are being gradually weakened. The United States of America, as the following return will show, appear slowly but surely to be absorbing our export trade.

TRADE WITH UNITED STATES.

Year.	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
1881 - - - -	397,854	193,703
1882 - - - -	402,971	341,946
1883 - - - -	438,271	716,513
1884 - - - -	425,572	608,194
1885 - - - -	394,496	564,458
1886 - - - -	351,951	634,368
1887 - - - -	360,537	722,813
1888 - - - -	349,863	668,578
1889 - - - -	382,520	763,426
1890 - - - -	428,563	725,000

The revenue derived from customs duties was 206,262*l.*, being 13,931*l.* in excess of the estimate, and 15,578*l.* in excess of the receipts in 1889.

The following articles contributed to this increase :—

Articles.	Duty collected in 1889.	Duty collected in 1890.	Increase.
	£	£	£
Bread - - - - -	1,883	2,149	266
Butter - - - - -	2,559	3,292	733
Flour - - - - -	19,187	19,976	789
Hardware - - - -	1,901	2,397	496
Leather—manufactured - -	1,459	2,171	712
Malt liquor - - - -	4,999	5,809	810
Opium - - - - -	2,594	2,875	281
Kerosine oil - - - -	14,652	16,758	2,106
Coconut oil - - - -	1,351	2,709	1,358
Olive oil - - - -	1,392	2,141	749
Sugar - - - - -	2,086	2,955	869
Spirits of all kinds - - -	14,586	14,796	210
Timber - - - -	3,066	4,577	1,511
Tobacco of all kinds - - -	29,296	31,617	2,321
Textiles - - - -	8,623	11,251	2,628
Wines of all kinds - - -	10,212	13,226	3,014

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As no change was made in the tariff of duties, this increased revenue may I think be regarded as a sure proof of the increasing prosperity of the Island. There was no marked decrease in any article of import.

I append a return of the quantities of the principal staples exported in the last 10 years:—

Year.	Sugar.	Molasses.	Rum.	Cocoa.
	lb.	Galls.	Galls.	lb.
1881 - - -	97,682,267	1,417,550	935	10,809,796
1882 - - -	123,931,724	2,067,859	1,909	10,972,687
1883 - - -	122,070,784	1,982,176	2,394	11,649,785
1884 - - -	136,552,804	2,245,650	43,581	12,098,770
1885 - - -	142,641,411	2,416,761	72,525	13,729,565
1886 - - -	108,523,940	2,220,288	16,181	17,913,037
1887 - - -	149,800,919	2,542,225	35,571	11,927,067
1888 - - -	122,491,220	1,948,569	97,974	21,352,312
1889 - - -	112,368,762	2,234,724	20,015	15,335,228
1890 - - -	115,239,227	2,024,884	20,469	21,552,593

Years.	Coffee.	Asphalt.			Coconuts.	Bitters and Liquors.
	lb.	Total.	Raw.	Boiled.	No.	Galls.
		Tons.	Tons.	Tons.		
1881 -	41,870	26,605	—	—	6,644,218	28,708
1882 -	38,204	30,760	—	—	8,071,435	30,633
1883 -	40,822	38,145	—	—	8,826,500	32,925
1884 -	14,960	—	33,383	6,562	11,276,339	32,381
1885 -	20,270	—	28,505	6,731	9,645,700	32,240
1886 -	20,052	35,671	30,255	5,416	9,013,200	35,355
1887 -	8,380	43,099	35,070	8,027	7,365,295	35,143
1888 -	4,480	52,028	40,792	11,236	12,366,592	42,830
1889 -	29,774	78,124	66,565	11,559	11,495,471	43,692
1890 -	12,597	78,841	68,201	10,640	12,739,904	43,266

The value of the fruit exported during the year was 1,569*l.*

Fruit Trade.

I am happy to be able to report that this industry, which I foresee will be of incalculable benefit to the Colony, and which I have spared no endeavour to promote, has at length commenced to show some encouraging results. The Central Agricultural Board, a most useful and influential association, has energetically worked with me in this object and has been the means of stimulating enterprise and spreading valuable information throughout the length and breadth of the Island, by its discussions and publications.

It was in the spring of 1889, that small shipments of fruit, chiefly oranges and bananas, were first made to the American markets by the newly subsidized line of steamers. These shipments were necessarily of an experimental character and produced very varying results, some fruits fetching fair prices, and others being sold at a loss.

This, however, is not difficult to account for. The shipments were of a spasmodic character, and the process of packing and picking, which demand the greatest care, were but little understood. Our first operations, too, were commenced at a rather unfavourable period of the year, in which Trinidad fruit had to compete with that from other well-known fruit growing countries, where the requirements of the market were thoroughly understood, and it is not surprising, therefore, that the pioneers of the new industry were somewhat disheartened at the results obtained.

The Central Agricultural Board and its agents, however, urged the people to persevere, and I think that the industry may now be considered to be firmly established.

The principal exports have consisted of oranges, limes and bananas. Experiments have been made with other products, but not with satisfactory results.

ORANGES.—5,200 crates of oranges were shipped in the four months ended on the 31st December 1890, which constituted the season for that year. Two large plantations were started during the year, and numerous smaller ones. A notice written by me calling attention to the advantages of this industry was extensively circulated throughout the Colony in English, Spanish, French and Hindustani.

LIMES.—In 1889, Trinidad limes were first placed in the New York market. These did fairly well and in 1890 a considerable increase will be observed in the shipments. Several abandoned lime plantations have been reclaimed, and the exports of this product will no doubt increase rapidly, as it has been discovered that they can compete favourably with Sicilian Lemons.

BANANAS.—It will be seen that the shipments have conciderably fallen off in 1890 as compared with 1889. The fruit spoils very quickly, and it has been found that small quantities cannot receive the special care and attention which they require.

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Large areas are however being planted up with bananas, but the excessive rain-fall of 1890 has somewhat retarded operations. Dried bananas have been placed on the Canadian and American markets with the most encouraging results.

I append a table showing the shipments in 1889 and 1890:—

Fruit.		1889.	1890.
Oranges - -	No. -	278,638	878,554
Limes - -	No. -	176,150	1,033,405
Bananas - -	Bunches	1,365	398
Bananas (dried) -	Cwt. -	—	8
Lemons - -	No. -	—	650
Shaddocks -	Barrels -	2	—
Avocado Pears -	Crates -	1	—
Golden Apples -	„ -	27	—
Cucumbers -	„ -	2	—

Shipping.

The returns for the year are as follows:—

SHIPS ENTERED.

—	BRITISH.		FOREIGN.		TOTAL.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
Sailing Vessels -	483	50,643	1,661	90,712	2,144	141,355
Steamers - -	276	307,272	197	191,596	473	498,868
Total -	759	357,915	1,858	282,308	2,617	640,223

SHIPS CLEARED.

—	BRITISH.		FOREIGN.		TOTAL.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
Sailing Vessels -	482	51,578	1,653	91,420	2,135	142,998
Steamers - -	275	304,431	195	189,218	470	493,649
Total -	757	356,009	1,848	280,638	2,605	636,647

The growth of the shipping business with the Colony since 1880 will be seen from the tables which I append:—

SAILING VESSELS.

—		BRITISH.		FOREIGN.		TOTAL.	
		No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
1880	Entered -	922	80,362	1,540	66,903	2,462	147,265
	Cleared -	880	76,301	1,499	66,690	2,379	142,991
	Total -	1,802	156,663	3,039	133,593	4,841	290,256
1890	Entered -	483	50,643	1,661	90,712	2,144	141,355
	Cleared -	482	51,578	1,653	91,420	2,135	142,998
	Total -	965	102,221	3,314	182,132	4,279	284,353

STEAMERS.

—		BRITISH.		FOREIGN.		TOTAL.	
		No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
1880	Entered -	166	229,529	82	63,315	248	292,844
	Cleared -	168	232,971	81	61,540	249	294,511
	Total -	334	462,500	163	124,855	497	587,355
1890	Entered -	276	307,272	197	191,596	473	498,868
	Cleared -	275	304,431	195	189,218	470	493,649
	Total -	551	611,703	392	380,814	943	992,517

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Crown Lands.

The following table will show the acreage sold and revenue derived from this source during the last 10 years :—

Year.	Acres.	Value.
		£
1881 - - - -	7,369	9,536
1882 - - - -	3,127	5,119
1883 - - - -	6,191	8,489
1884 - - -	6,010	9,411
1885 - - - -	8,171	9,891
	30,868	£42,446
1886 - - - -	11,123	12,624
1887 - - - -	10,800	13,531
1888 - - - -	9,115	10,756
1889 - - - -	5,391	6,575
1890 - - - -	6,165	6,971
	42,594	£50,457

Although there was an increase in the receipts of 1890 over those of 1889, the revenue from this source yet fell short of the estimate by 2,222*l.*, and it is evident that the causes to which I drew attention in my last report as tending to retard the sale of lands are still operating. It has, of course, been necessary, pending a decision in the matter of the proposed extension of the railway system, to refuse to alienate lands along the suggested routes, and I believe that when once these have been settled, an improvement will take place in the sales. I trust therefore that it will not be long before I am acquainted with your Lordship's decision in the matter.

In connexion with this subject, I appended the following extract from the annual report of the Sub-Intendant :—

"The successful settlement of Crown lands, in the near future, very much depends upon what is done in the matter of light railways, and what lines are decided upon ; and therefore it may not be out of place to offer a few observations on the subject, the reports on the surveys having now been published.

"Notwithstanding the comparatively heavier cost of the three miles and 26 chains, from Caparo, 12 miles 48 chains to Tabaquite, I strongly advocate carrying out—

"1st. The line from Chaguanas (or better still from Conupia) *viâ* Caparo Valley, Tabaquite, and Poole or Anapa Rivers to Mayaro; and that this line be made as far as Tabaquite or Poole River in the first place, and later on extended to Mayaro.

"2nd. The line from Arima to Manzanilla *viâ* Cumuto.

"With regard to the first, the Chaguanas, Caparo, Tabaquite and Mayaro line, I wrote to the Government recommending its adoption in May 1888 and April 1889, before the trial surveys were made, and I think that the report of the Director of Public Works of the 29th November last shows that it is the only reasonably practicable *direct* line from the capital of the island to the district of Mayaro and the Ortoire, and the fine lands lying between Montserrat and Tamana, while at the same time it would give access not only to the alienated and Crown lands in the Caparo Valley, but to the whole eastern section of the ward of Montserrat, where there are thousands of acres alienated, but now uncultivated, because it is almost impossible to bring out produce from want of roads.

"At home and in many colonies new deviations of railways are now being constantly made at enormous expense to shorten, and make more direct, the main trunk lines between the capital city or chief seaport and outlaying districts.

"It would therefore, in my opinion, be most unwise to carry the traffic of the whole eastern and central districts from Tabaquite round to Williamsville and San Fernando to Port-of-Spain, a distance of about 49 miles, when it can be brought in *viâ* Caparo Valley, a distance (from Tabaquite to Port-of-Spain) of about 33 miles only, and the traffic of the east side of Montserrat and Caparo, now totally unprovided for, could be taken up at the same time.

"This line would pass through the country almost absolutely without roads, and where (without a railway) the making of roads would be most expensive, because metal has to be brought from such a distance, and it would open up more land, both Crown lands and private lands, in my opinion, than any other.

"With regard to the second line, Arima to Manzanilla, I should have put it first, because there is more *present* produce to bring ou by it, but for the fact that there are already fair roads from Arima to Tumpuna, to Cumuto, and as far as Sangre Grande to bring out the produce by, and therefore, I consider the other more pressing."

Mr. Wilson further draws attention to the very large increase in the defaulters' list which he attributes to the general depression, the increasing reluctance of proprietors to pay their dues, and to the difficulties now experienced by wardens in distraining for taxes. The number of warrants issued was:—

In 1888 - - - -	109
In 1889 - - - -	185
In 1890 - - -	260

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the largest increase, over 600 per cent., occurring in the Diego Martin district, which is near to the seat of the Government, and in which is situated the residence of his honour the Chief Justice. It is evident that the propinquity of the two chief authorities of the Colony has no terrorising influence over the recalcitrant tax-payers of Diego Martin.

Criminal Statistics.

The following figures relate to the magistrates' courts :—

No. of persons summoned or apprehended.	Number discharged for want of prosecution by the party complaining, or for want of evidence.	No. of cases dismissed on the merits.	No. of persons summarily convicted.	No. of persons committed for trial in the Superior Courts.
17,221	4,116	2,833	10,082	190

In the Supreme Court the figures were :—

No. of Cases.	Judgment for the Crown.	Judgment for the prisoner.	Found insane.	Case fell through for want of prosecution.
193	105	34	1	53

It will be seen from these tables that the proportion of acquittals to convictions is very high, and that a still larger number of cases are dismissed for want of prosecution.

Mr. Attorney-General Gatty in an able report on the criminal statistics of the Colony which I recently transmitted to your Lordship, drew attention to this matter as being in his opinion a very serious one, and indicating that too many grave offences go unpunished through the evidence having been stifled by compromise. Even in the graver cases of murder and manslaughter there is great difficulty in obtaining evidence, and Mr. Gatty considers that it will be only by strengthening the detective branch of the Police Force, and the appointment of a Treasury solicitor, that the ends of justice will be better met.

With respect to the cases discharged however, both the Attorney-General and the Senior Police Magistrate concur in thinking that they are for the most part of a trivial and frivolous nature.

It will be seen that the number of convictions has not kept pace with the increase in the population, which, considering the extent to which that increase is due to the influx of immigrants

of an alien race, tends to show that the community in general is peaceable and law-abiding. This is also borne out by the Gaol Returns, which show that the daily average of the number of prisoners is steadily diminishing.

Daily average of Prisoners.

Years.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1881 - - - - -	496	58	554
1882 - - - - -	509	53	562
1883 - - - - -	519	45	564
1884 - - - - -	606	52	658
1885 - - - - -	573	48	621
1886 - - - - -	529	57	586
1887 - - - - -	447	47	494
1888 - - - - -	384	34	418
1889 - - - - -	432	47	479
1890 - - - - -	405	38	443

The following table gives the proportion of acquittals to convictions during the last 10 years :—

Year.	Inferior Courts.			Supreme Court.		
	Convictions.	Acquittals.	Percentage.	Convictions.	Acquittals.	Percentage.
1881	8,962	2,685	·30	99	36	·36
1882	9,404	2,698	·29	123	40	·33
1883	9,132	2,657	·29	114	40	·35
1884	10,212	3,004	·29	152	59	·39
1885	9,855	3,084	·31	120	51	·43
1886	9,941	2,805	·28	107	38	·36
1887	8,888	3,383	·38	85	38	·45
1888	8,534	3,157	·37	118	46	·39
1889	9,717	2,995	·31	180	43	·40
1890	10,082	2,833	·28	105	34	·32

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The per-centage of convictions to the estimated population of 1890 was 4·88, but a large proportion of the convictions (2,351) was for offences under the "Masters' and Servants' Acts," consisting chiefly of petty breaches of contract on the part of indentured immigrants. If these are eliminated the per-centage is reducted to 3·75.

There were two convictions for murder, both being cases of wife murder by immigrants.

Savings Banks.

The following table shows the large increase that has taken place in the business of the banks in the last 10 years :—

Year.	No. of Depositors.	Amount in Deposit on 31st December.		
		£	s.	d.
1881 - - - -	2,825	41,999	4	7½
1882 - - - -	2,598	54,840	12	8½
1883 - - - -	3,020	75,351	12	6
1884 - - - -	3,361	85,555	18	1½
1885 - - - -	3,490	87,511	13	9
1886 - - - -	3,757	97,458	11	0
1887 - - - -	4,409	109,515	9	1
1888 - - - -	5,366	121,926	9	3½
1889 - - - -	5,606	128,228	18	6
1890 - - - -	6,769	144,554	14	10

In addition to the two chief offices in Port-of-Spain and San Fernando, branch banks under the management of the wardens were opened in 1886 in several of the country districts. There are now 10 of these branch banks, and further facilities have lately been given to depositors by the introduction of the system of deposits by means of stamps.

A pleasing feature in the returns is the extent to which the banks are utilized by Indian immigrants. On the 31st of December last, 2,758 Indian depositors had to their credit a sum of 69,043*l.* 9*s.* 9½*d.* Taking the population of the Colony at 208,030 and the Indian section at 69,000, it will be seen that the average deposit of the immigrants per head is a little over 1*l*, and that of the rest of the people only about 11*s.* The temporary run upon the banks which I reported to your Lordship early in the present year, was happily of but short duration, and the confidence

of the people in the Government institution has been completely regained.

The account for 1890 shows a profit on the working of the banks:—

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Interest from investments				4,273	10	6
Interest on deposits -	3,471	15	3			
Cost of establishment -	715	12	6			
				4,187	7	9
Balance - - -				£86	2	9

114,232*l.* 11*s.* 4*d.* is invested in English stock and Colonial securities, and a further sum of 20,000*l.* will be shortly invested.

It is to be sincerely hoped that the establishment of the so-called "People's Bank" will not interfere detrimentally with the working of the Government savings banks.

General Remarks.

The year 1890 was an uneventful one. The health of the island was good, and, judging from the export returns, the crops favourable, while the large increase in the customs revenue, without the imposition of any further taxation, proves that the community was fairly prosperous.

The fruit trade is now established on a firm basis, and the judicious expenditure of the 100,000*l.* loan which your Lordship has authorised for the improvement of the roads, will, I think, give an impetus to this industry, not, as is feared, by drawing away labour from the larger estates, but by enabling the smaller proprietors, who already exist in large numbers, to work their holdings to better advantage. The board established for the purpose of administering the loan has been doing good work; it has acted throughout courageously and honestly. It has solved many interesting problems, one of which is that local committees if properly selected, can with advantage superintend and control expenditure on roads in their districts. I venture to think that the road loan board has been a great success; that it has made its mark in the Colony, and has proved a valuable adjunct to the Public Works Department. The labours of the Board will be continued through the present and probably the coming year. Many miles of road have been improved and re-constructed; iron bridges are being erected over the Arima, Aripo, and Caroni rivers, and telegraph lines constructed to Cedros and Mayaro. Fully one-half of the work done on the roads has been in the sugar districts. Up to date, as will be seen by the following figures, the total sum voted is 80,096*l.*, whilst that which has been expended is 26,102*l.*:—

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.

Statement of Expenditure on Works in Progress to 31*st May* 1891.

Name of Work.	Vote.	Expenditure.	Balance.
	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.
Caura Royal Road - - -	12,000 00	11,790 53	209 47
Cedar Hill Road - - -	7,948 80	6,923 47	1,025 33
Paria Road - - - -	14,400 00	2,000 00	12,400 00
Erin Village and Viâ Franca Roads -	4,358 40	1,624 52	2,733 88
Extension of Telegraph to Cedros -	9,600 00	3,423 55	6,176 45
„ „ Mayaro -	9,600 00	—	9,600 00
Telephonic communication with Carrera's	768 00	681 52	86 48
Mayaro Trace - - -	14,390 40	8,382 13	6,008 27
Moruga Road - - -	12,960 00	10,075 39	2,884 61
Mandingo Road - - -	3,552 00	2,234 07	1,317 93
St. Croix Road - - - -	8,640 00	5,092 37	3,547 63
Depôts - - - - -	5,760 00	2,006 72	3,753 28
Southern Main Road - - -	69,715 20	19,535 68	50,179 52
Bridge over the Arima River -	9,408 00	182 20	9,225 80
„ „ Aripo River - -	10,416 00	—	10,416 00
Fullarton Road - - -	14,001 60	1,757 09	12,244 51
Mayo Main Road - - -	17,750 40	5,723 60	12,026 80
Couva Road - - - -	13,680 00	4,810 09	8,869 91
Eastern Main Road - - -	48,000 00	125 84	47,874 16
Caroni Left Bank Road - -	12,000 00	2,820 53	9,179 47
Torrib Trace - - - -	8,160 00	8,150 40	9 60
Brothers Settlement Road - -	6,480 00	6,080 06	339 94
New Bridge over the Caroni River -	20,841 60	—	20,841 60
Rivulet Road - - - -	7,291 20	4,022 73	3,268 47
Atagual Road - - - -	3,697 06	3,196 75	500 31
Siparia Road - - - -	4,800 00	1,134 79	3,665 21
Caparo Road - - - -	5,760 00	999 20	4,760 80
Proposed Road, Oropouche to Cedros, survey of.	—	1,747 21	—
„ Four Roads to Carenage, survey of.	—	112 82	—
Proposed diversion of Southern Road -	—	47 48	—
Transport train—purchase of mules, &c.	—	10,277 42	—
Road through St. Marie, St. John and Preseverance Estates.	13,642 44	—	13,642 44
Bridge over Poole River - -	1,124 32	335 94	788 38
Approaches—Tumpuna Bridge	2,055 02	—	2,055 02
Bridges—Guanapo River - -	9,934 88	—	9,934 88
Milton Road - - - -	1,728 00	—	1,728 00
	384,463 32	125,294 10	271,354 15

Total expenditure, 26,102*l.* 18*s.* 9*d.*

Working of Transport Train Suspense Account to 31*st May* 1891.

Expenditure.		Revenue.	
	$ c.		$ c.
To upkeep of live and dead stock, wages of carters, penmen, &c. - -	3,758 16	By work done and charged to above votes - -	4,938 10
To balance - -	1,779 94		
	4,938 10		4,938 10

With regard to telegraphic communication, I may observe that Mayaro, situated in the centre of large cocoanut plantations, is the only port of entry on the eastern side of the island. It lies in the direct line of vessels running north from the ports of South America, and when the telegraph line under construction places it in communication with the rest of the world, it may be expected that it will be used extensively as a port of call. A survey of the Mayaro Bay was made during the year by Captain Rainier of H.M.S. Tourmaline, and beacons placed to mark the anchorage.

The sum of 26,744*l.* was derived in revenue from the Pitch Lake in 1890.

The receipts from this source for the last 10 years have been :—

Year.	Revenue.
	£
1881	855
1882	918
1883	1,100
1884	1,163
1885	1.574
1886	4,109
1887	5,113
1888	17,188
1889	26,808
1890	26,744

It was very gratifying to me on the 8th December last to announce to the Legislative Council your Lordship's decision in regard to the Pitch Lake. My views on the subject, which were embodied in a despatch written in the early part of 1886, have never changed.

In accordance with my recommendations made in June 1890, the extension of the concession of the Pitch Lake was approved of for an additional year, not exceeding in the whole 21 years from the 1st February 1909, for every 4,000*l.* which shall be paid by the concessionaires before the 1st February 1909, over and above the minimum sum of 140,000*l.* payable in respect of the first term of 14 years, and the further sum of 28,000*l.* payable in order to obtain the extension of seven years from the 1st February 1902. The conditions imposed were amongst others that on the 1st February 1891, the concessionaires should make a special payment to the Colony of 10,000*l.* in addition to the regular payment of 10,000*l.* due on that day under the term of the concession; both payments being taken as against shipments of the year commencing on that day.

Further, the Trinidad Asphalt Company agreed that if by the 1st February 1892, the concessionaires had *not paid to the Colonial Government* 100,000*l.* in addition to the *permanent deposit* in London of 10,000*l.*, the Company should on that day

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.

give to the Crown a mortgage on all the land it now possesses in Trinidad as collateral security for the balance then remaining of the 140,000*l.* the payment of which to the Colonial Government the Company has undertaken.

Your Lordship has approved of my suggestion that the large and increasing revenue from asphalt should not be included in the current receipts which are to be used for ordinary purposes, but that they should be set aside and invested for special purposes. This decision will necessitate a re-arrangement and an increase of taxation; and the matter should be considered when it is seen what effect, if any, the McKinley Tariff Bill will have upon our finances.

If the yearly revenue, however, of 30,000*l.*, or over, to be received from asphalt were applied to interest and sinking fund, it will be admitted that the Colony could easily raise a million sterling if necessary on the most favourable terms, which would be ample to provide the additional roads, railways, water supply, and harbour improvements which are necessary. Until these are provided, it is difficult to see how it will be possible for this large Island to make adequate progress and keep pace with the times.

As this will probably be the last Blue Book Report I shall write from Trinidad I may, I think, without impropriety and with a due sense of gratitude, refer to the hearty assistance and co-operation which I have received from the large majority of the Council and the general community in this most difficult government.

It is my earnest hope not only that wise and enlightened views may ever prevail in the Supreme Council of the Colony, but that the efforts of the executive, of the leading public servants, and of the influential portion of the inhabitants may be unceasingly directed towards the moral and social improvement of the people of Trinidad, by stimulating education and agriculture, which are the most powerful factors of civilization and prosperity.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WILLIAM ROBINSON.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

APPENDIX.

TOBAGO.

Government Office,
April 6, 1891.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Tobago Blue Book for 1890 with my report thereon.

I have, &c.
L. G. HAY,
Commissioner.

Taxes and Duties.

The Land and House Tax Regulations passed by the Financial Board at the close of 1889 came into operation in 1890. The tax on land under this law is 5*d.* per acre, that on houses is 1*s.* 6*d.* in the pound of the annual rate or value.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue was 8,656*l.* 10*s.* 3*d.*, the expenditure 9,253*l.* 4*s.* 5*d.* The sums estimated for revenue and expenditure respectively were 9,720*l.* and 9,352*l.* 18*s.* 9*d.* The principal falling off in the ervenue was in the import duties, the quantity of dutiable goods imported during the year having been much below the average. There is, moreover, little doubt that the trade between Trinidad and Tobago has greatly increased, many of the small traders in Tobago purchasing their goods in Port-of-Spain. The effect of this, in spite of the arrangement made for the adjustment between the two other islands of duties paid on such goods, is that in many instances the Tobago revenue fails to profit by the duty paid in Trinidad, the goods being frequently conveyed as personal baggage, and thus not appearing in the transires.

Public Debt.

The public debt is 5,000*l.*, this sum representing a loan from Trinidad at interest at the rate of four per centum per annum.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.

Public Works.

The following was the work accomplished during the year, the greater part of the loan from Trinidad being devoted to the purpose:—

Building of a customs and excise warehouse.
Building of a hospital dispensary.
Building of a bridge over Pembroke River.
Building of a bridge over Lambeau River.
Repairs to court house and Government offices.
Repairs to Government House.
Repairs to Colonial hospital.
Repairs to police barracks.
Repairs to gaol.
Repairs to, and conversion of, old dispensary into an almshouse.

The repairs to most of the public buildings amounted almost to reconstruction, they having fallen into such a wretched state of decay.

The expenditure on the roads was 799*l.* 10*s.* 3½*d.*, which sum included the cost of supervision.

Financial Board and Legislation

On the 15th December Mr. R. B. Anderson, F.R.C.S.E., was elected a member of the Financial Board in the place of Mr. A. Briggs, who resigned his seat on leaving the island.

Four regulations were passed by the Board in the course of the year, the only important one of which was "The Poor Relief Regulation, 1890."

This law provides for the establishment of an almshouse and the formation of a Poor Relief Board consisting of the local heads of the several religious denominations, the district medical officers the inspector of police and one member of the Financial Board appointed by the Commissioner.

The control of the almshouse is vested in the Board, and the outdoor relief of the poor, with the custody and expenditure of the moneys in connexion therewith, are likewise vested in that body.

Four Ordinances especially applying to Tobago were passed by the Legislative Council of the Colony; their titles, which indicate their object, were:—

"To declare the application to Tobago of the Excise Law of Trinidad so far as it relates to rum and other spirits and to amend the same in certain particulars."
"For the prevention of wilful trespass on lands."
"For the prevention of accidents by fire."
"To amend the law as to juries."

Population.

The estimated population at the close of the year was 20,727. There were 675 births registered, 337 males and 338 females, the birth-rate being 32·56 per thousand. The illegitimate birth-rate was 52·73 per cent. as against 57·80 in 1889.

The number of marriages registered was 97, being 10 more than in 1889.

There were 453 deaths, giving a death-rate of 21·86 per thousand.

Imports and Exports.

The subjoined table shows the value of the imports and exports for the last five years:—

Year.	Great Britain.		British Colonies.		Foreign Colonies.		Total.	
	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.		
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1886 - -	11,655	8,552	8,827	9,792	263	5,822	30,755	38,436
1887 - -	13,669	21,547	9,369	8,433	79	2,927	23,117	32,907
1888 - -	15,752	27,809	11,485	7,451	1,610	3,640	28,847	38,900
1889 - -	18,952	33,162	10,789	4,778	2,855	6,756	32,596	39,526
1890 - -	16,881	1,956	5,108	5,516	1,414	11,899	23,403	19,371

It will be seen that there was a falling off in the year 1890 both in imports and exports; the cause in the case of the latter was the very small sugar crop which was only 22,582 cwts.; the average crop for the five previous years was 40,398 cwts.

Agriculture.

The following is an extract from the Annual Report of the Committee of the Tobago Agricultural Society, and deals fairly with the present situation:—

"It may be said that the past year has been one of depression and of sustained anxiety. The relations between capital and labour, between employer and employed, have been severely strained, and at the moment when this report is written the general feeling is one of uncertainty and alarm. In 1889 there had been a fair sugar crop, and on the whole, a fairly remunerative market

for it. The island's financial position, notwithstanding the disarrangements consequent on the annexation to Trinidad, was good. The old monopoly of land had disappeared, and there had been a considerable influx of new blood and new capital devoted to a large extent to the prosecution of new industries. In 1890, on the other hand, the cane crop was a poor one, and the prices obtained for sugar compared unfavourably with those of the preceding year. The crop season was, with the exception of one month, a wet one, and reaping was carried on under most disadvantageous circumstances. The one exceptional month was February, during which only ·31 of an inch of rain fell at the Fort (the Meteorological Station), and unfortunately, the Supreme Court was in session during the whole of it. No work of any consequence was done on any of the estates and valuable time was lost. * * * * One important new industry was started in the island during the year, namely, the cultivation on a large scale of *Furcræa cubensis* for the production of the Tobago hemp fibre. The company which has been formed for this purpose has about 80 acres in cultivation, and the reports on the fibre already produced have been very favourable. It is to be hoped that the scheme will be a successful one."

Prison.

There were 85 persons committed to prison, the daily average number in prison was 14.

Criminal Statistics.

The number of summary convictions during the year 1890 was 433. There was one conviction in the superior courts. In the preceding year the convictions in the inferior and superior courts were 302 and 4 respectively.

Hospital.

The admissions to the hospital in 1890 numbered 133. The daily average number of patients in hospital was 14. There were 18 deaths, and 66 patients were discharged cured.

Meteorological Observations.

The Meteorological Station, which has now been in existence for about two years, is a regular second-class station from which monthly reports are forwarded to the Meteorological Office. The mean temperature for the year was 78·5. The rainfall was 77·36 inches. Rain fell on 195 days. January, with 10·28 inches showed the heaviest monthly fall, the heaviest daily fall, 2·94 inches, being on the 10th of that month.

General Remarks.

The extract given from the report of the Agricultural Society clearly indicates that the year 1890 has not been a satisfactory one as regards the general prosperity of the island. The combined circumstances, however, which led to this were peculiar and unprecedented, and are not likely to recur to the same extent. The financial position at the end of the year was, in view of the above, much better than might have been expected, there being, apart from the Trinidad loan, a surplus of assets amounting to 351*l.* 18*s.* 8*d.*

(Signed) L. G. HAY,
Commissioner.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary,
Trinidad.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 43.

JAMAICA.

(TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS.)

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1891.

(For Report for 1890, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 12.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
June 1892.

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1892.

[C.—6563.–27.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

No.	Colony.	Year.
7	St. Vincent	1890
8	Bermuda	,,
9	Leeward Islands	1889
10	St. Lucia	1890
11	Bahamas	,,
12	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
13	Gibraltar	,,
14	Zululand	,,
15	Sierra Leone	,,
16	Barbados	,,
17	Falkland Islands	,,
18	Labuan	,,
19	British Honduras	,,
20	Basutoland	1890–91
21	Trinidad and Tobago	1890
22	Leeward Islands	,,
23	Grenada	,,
24	Straits Settlements	,,
25	British Guiana	,,
26	St. Helena	,,
27	Mauritius	,,
28	Gambia	,,
29	Hong Kong	,,
30	Ceylon	1889
31	Lagos	,,
32	Lagos	1890
33	Ceylon	,,
34	Newfoundland	,,
35	Jamaica	1889–91
36	Victoria	1890
37	British New Guinea	1890–91
38	St. Vincent	1891
39	Bermuda	,,
40	Seychelles and Rodrigues	1889 and 1890
41	Gambia	1891
42	Barbados	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.

No. 43.

JAMAICA

(TURKS AND CAICOS).

(For Report for 1890, *see* Colonial Report [Annual], No. 12.)

Sir H. A. BLAKE to LORD KNUTSFORD.

King's House, Jamaica,
April 16, 1892.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship two copies of the Turks and Caicos Islands Blue Book for the year 1891, together with the Commissioner's Report thereon.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY A. BLAKE,
Governor.

The Right Hon. Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF THE TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS FOR THE YEAR 1891.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue for 1891 was 7,354*l.*, as compared with 8,901*l.* in 1890, being an excess of 242*l.* in the estimate. The balance brought forward from 1890 was 3,177*l.*, which, added to the receipts collected within the year, made up a total revenue of 10,531*l.*

The decrease inthe revenue from that for 1890 was principally due to a falling off of 581*l.* under import duties, which may be attributed to the absence of wrecks, with one exception, with valuable cargoes, and of 569*l.* under exports, on account of 404,555 bushels of salt less being shipped than in the preceding year.

The ordinary expenditure was 6,983*l.*, as against 7,067*l.* in 1890, being 53*l.* under the estimate. The expenditure from surplus funds on special works was 1,012*l.*, making a total expenditure of 7,995*l.* The ordinary expenditure was 370*l.* under the receipts,

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but the latter fell short of the total expenditure by 641*l.* and reduced the balance to 2,535*l.* to carry forward at the close of the year. There is also a reserve sum of 1,000*l.* invested to the credit of the Dependency.

Public Works.

The opening of a channel for boats at the South Creek, Salt Cay, and the construction of the North Tank at Grand Turk, were carried to completion within the year. The road to the North Wells, Grand Turk, which is much used by the poorer classes to cart water along, was put in a state of good repair, and Saunders Pond Alley, which had become well nigh impassable, made into an excellent road, and several of the streets in the towns of Grand Turk and Salt Cay, which were in a very bad state of repair, were made up. A contract was accepted to remake a portion of the road to the lighthouse, and the work was begun, but had not been completed at the close of the year. This long-needed work, when finished, will be a great boon to the owners of plantations of corn, &c. most of which are located in the part of the Island through which this road runs. Many minor repairs to abutments at Grand Turk and Salt Cay, the sea wall at Grand Turk, and Government property generally in the Dependency, were executed during the year.

Legislation.

The undermentioned Ordinances were passed by the Legislative Board during the year :—

No. 1—The Annual Appropriation Ordinance.
No. 2—The Companies Amendment Ordinance.
No. 3—The Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance.
No. 4—The Superannuation Amendment Ordinance.
No. 5—The Fibrous Plants Ordinance.
No. 6—The Cable Company's Ordinance.

COUNCILS AND ASSEMBLIES.

Legislative Board.

Mr. H. Higgins, on appointment as Commissioner, became a member and was nominated President of the Board. Dr. A. W. Thompson, Government Medical Officer, was appointed an official member of the Board, *vice* Dr. Andrews, who resigned his appointment in the Government Service.

Board of Education.

Mr. H Higgins, as Commissioner, became a member and Chairman of the Board. There was no change among the other members.

Civil Establishment.

Mr. H. Higgins, Colonial Secretary of Sierra Leone, was appointed Commissioner for the Turks and Caicos Islands *vice* Captain Jackson, transferred to the Bahamas, and arrived in the Dependency on the 30th March. Dr. A. W. Thompson was appointed Government Medical Officer in April *vice* Dr. Andrews, resigned. Captain Jackson was absent on leave during January, and the Judge acted as Commissioner from the beginning of the year until the arrival of the Commissioner in March. Dr. Clark, a Jamaica practitioner, was employed as Government Medical Officer, in place of Dr. Andrews, on sick leave, from 1st January until the arrival of Dr. Thompson in April.

Messrs. Harriott and Stamers, Assistant Commissioners at Grand Turk and Salt Cay respectively, were each absent on vacation leave for three months in the year.

Mr. J. C. Crisson acted for the former in the capacity of Police Magistrate, and Mr. E. C. Harriott acted for him as Registrar of the Supreme Court and of Deeds; Mr. G. D. Jones, of Salt Cay, acted for Mr. Stamers, during his absence.

Foreign Consuls.

The undermentioned gentlemen represent in the Dependency the Governments of the countries named:—

United States of America.—J. L. Hance, Consul, J. D. Murphy, Vice and Deputy Consul.
Sweden and Norway.—C. R. Hinson, Consul.
Dominican Republic.—C. R. Hinson, Consul.
Haytian Republic.—J. W. Darrell, Consul.
Denmark.—J. D. Murphy, Consul.
France.—W. S. Jones, Consular Agent.
Spain.—G. J. Gibbs, Vice-Consul.

Education.

There are seven free elementary schools, viz., five mixed, and one for boys only, and one for girls only, in the Dependency, which are maintained out of a Government Grant of 600*l.* per annum.

At the annual inspection the number of scholars on the books was found to be larger than in 1890, and the attendance showed a considerable improvement, All the schools, with the exception of those at Kew and Blue Hills, were in operation throughout the year. The school at Kew was closed for the first five months of the year, on account of the illness and absence, on leave, of the master, whose state of health eventually compelled him to resign his appointment in December. Arrangements were made to have the vacancy thus caused filled by a teacher from Jamaica, early in the ensuing year. The school at Blue Hills was closed on the

JAMAICA (TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS).

1st July, the acting teacher, who had not given satisfaction, being permitted to resign, and was reopened on the 5th of October, under a new teacher procured from Jamaica, and whose wife was appointed sewing mistress.

The following table gives a summary of the school returns for 1891 :—

Summary of School Returns for 1891.

School.	Teacher.	Average Number on Books.	Average Attendance.	Number of Days in operation.	Cost of School.
					£ s. d.
Grand Turk - - -	R. G. Wint - -	217	80	216	153 11 3
Salt Cay - - -	N. W. Astwood - -	65	37	205	71 12 3
C. Harbour (Boys.) -	T. T. Godet - -	42	32	201	67 2 9
„ (Girls.) -	Mary Tatem - -	56	24	211	53 9 3
Kew - - - - -	J. McCaulay - -	70	42	134	66 5 4
Blue Hills - - -	S. Irons - - -	70	40	131	58 11 2
Lorimers - - -	J. J. Tucker - -	74	48	206	54 1 2
Total - -	—	594	308	—	524 13 2

Population.

The census was taken throughout the Dependency on the 6th April, with the following results :—

The total population numbered 4,785 souls, of whom 41 were on board vessels not belonging to the Dependency, making the actual population of the Islands 4,744, being an increase of 12 on the census taken in 1881, and of 21 on that taken in 1871. The increase was in the female population. Both the white and black population have decreased since the previous census was taken, the former over 25 per cent., and the latter about 3 per cent., while the coloured population has increased by 243 souls, or about 18 per cent. The decrease in the white population may be attributed to emigration to the United States of America. The census returns showed the average annual birth-rate to be 35 per 1000 and the death-rate 24 per 1000 of the population, viz. :—

Average annual number of births, 166.

„ „ „ „ deaths, 115.

This is a decrease of one per thousand in the birth-rate and an increase of three per thousand in the death-rate on the returns from the census of 1881. The returns showed a total of 29 persons suffering from infirmities in the Dependency.

Imports, Exports, &c.

The following tables compare the Receipts and Expenditure of Public Revenue for 1890–1, and give trade and other statistics.

SCHEDULE of RECEIPTS and EXPENDITURE of the PUBLIC REVENUE for the Year 1891, in comparison with the preceding Year 1890.

	1890.			1891.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Imports.						
Alcohol	2	0	0	0	0	0
Ale, porter, cider, &c.	22	16	10	6	8	6
Bay water	23	15	0	5	19	0
Bread	21	16	3	21	18	9
Butter	72	13	1	65	0	9
Cheese	29	15	4	29	10	0
Cigars	8	8	9	16	4	3
Flour, wheat	600	5	8	483	15	1
Lard	89	1	9	73	10	5
Lumber and shingles	44	1	4	162	7	4
Meat, salted and cured	260	17	11	215	4	7
Oils	46	1	5	48	17	5
Paint in oil	20	16	5	17	2	2
Rice	89	4	3	65	8	0
Rum, brandy, gin, cordials, &c.	695	2	9	625	14	6
Soap	103	17	3	28	7	5
Sugar	311	19	5	283	5	10
Tea	39	0	0	35	6	6
Tobacco	52	1	11	40	17	7
Wine	20	3	5	38	0	7
Ad valorem duties	1,046	7	6	756	5	9
	3,600	6	3	3,019	4	5
Other Sources of Revenue.						
Royalty of 10 per cent. ad valorem on salt exported: in 1890—1,974,015 bushels; in 1891—1,569,460 bushels	2,878	17	11	2,288	18	0
Royalty on cave earth	0	0	0	20	14	0
Light duties	866	11	8	676	13	4
Auction duties	109	2	7	21	13	0
Fines from Supreme and Police Courts	42	8	6	26	12	0
Fees of office	92	16	3	80	1	0
Postage	165	2	8	186	3	1
Post Office money order commissions	32	12	10	33	4	4
Liquor licenses	100	0	0	75	0	0
Wine „	72	10	0	72	10	0
Dog tax	21	2	6	15	3	7
Sales, Crown land	7	15	4	7	5	0
Lease, „ „	190	12	2	195	4	9
Wharfage and storage	121	18	4	32	9	4
Grant in aid of Mail Service	312	10	0	250	0	0
Miscellaneous	247	0	5	313	8	9
Special	40	0	0	40	0	0
	5,301	1	2	4,335	0	2
Recapitulation.						
Imports	3,600	6	3	3,019	4	5
Other sources	5,301	1	2	4,335	0	2
	8,901	7	5	7,354	4	7
Balance from 1889 and 1890	2,538	11	4	3,177	5	9
	11,439	18	9	10,531	10	4
Expenditure for 1890 and 1891	8,262	13	0	7,995	13	8
Balance for 1891 and 1892	3,177	5	9	2,535	16	8

Commissioner's Office,
Grand Turk, January 20, 1892.

H. HIGGINS,
Commissioner.

JAMAICA (TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS).

VALUE of EXPORTS of DOMESTIC PRODUCE and MANUFACTURES in the Years 1889, 1890, and 1891.

—	1889.	1890.	1891.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Cave earth - - -	—	—	414 0 0
Salt - - - -	32,392 8 2	30,007 14 0	23,017 0 5
Sponge - - - -	249 3 10	181 6 7	1,250 0 1
Str'w, shells - - -	—	17 5 0	—
Sisal hemp - -	—	49 10 10	10 15 3
Timber - - - -	—	—	5 15 0
Turtle shell - - -	257 12 4	30 0 0	37 0 0
Total - -	32,899 4 4	30,285 16 5	24,734 10 9

VALUE of IMPORTS for the Years 1889, 1890, and 1891.

—	1889.	1890.	1891.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Imports - - -	27,369 0 9	42,107 15 11	26,891 17 4

AVERAGE QUANTITY of SALT exported from each Port for the Seven Years 1883 to 1889; and actual EXPORT for 1890 and 1891.

Ports.	1883 to 1889.	1890.	1891.
Grand Turk - -	595,535	770,754	533,706
Salt Cay - - -	483,439	559,423	355,994
Cockburn Harbour -	556,932	643,838	679,760
Total Bushels -	1,635,906	1,974,015	1,569,460

Salt in the Colony on 31st December 1888 - 750,000 bushels.
" " " 1889 - 370,000 "
" " " 1890 - 600,000 "
" " " 1891 - 350,000 "

RAINFALL for the Year 1891 compared with the Average for the previous Seven Years.

Month.	Grand Turk.	Salt Cay.	Cockburn Harbour.	Kew.
January - - -	2·47	2·56	2·00	3·00
February - -	·68	1·12	·57	2·00
March - - -	2·38	·27	·81	1·00
April - - -	5·57	5·32	2·28	3·00
May - - -	4·00	3·95	2·27	3·26
June - - -	·90	1·64	·46	6·73
July - - -	2·01	1·71	1·21	3·90
August - - -	4·70	4·89	2·92	3·69
September - -	·62	·66	3·42	3·00
October - - -	5·08	4·12	5·14	12·63
November - -	3·58	5·69	1·53	1·56
December - -	4·16	4·63	3·75	4·32
Total inches - -	36·15	36·56	26·36	48·09
Average for seven years, 1884 to 1890 - -	26·45	23·01	24·29	49·58

Shipping.

The total number and tonnage of vessels entered and cleared for the last three years were:—

Sailing Vessels.

—	Entered.		Cleared.		Total.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
1889 - - -	359	53,121	374	56,021	733	109,142
1890 - - -	365	52,441	370	50,457	735	102,898
1891 - - -	307	40,590	313	40,421	620	81,011

Steamers.

—	Entered.		Cleared.		Total.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
1889 - - -	52	53,066	52	53,066	104	106,132
1890 - - -	55	56,265	55	56,265	110	112,530
1891 - - -	60	61,190	60	61,190	120	122,380

Agriculture.

Owing to a drought followed by floods, the crops of corn, yams, potatoes, &c., failed in the Caicos Islands in the spring, and occasioned considerable distress amongst the people, who had to be assisted with food by the Government, to tide over the famine.

The cultivation of the Pita (Sisal) plant has made fair progress, especially in the Caicos Islands, and the reports from the plantations, towards the close of the year, were satisfactory. Two companies, the "West Caicos Fibre Company, Limited," at West Caicos, and the "East Caicos Company, Limited," at Breezy Point, formed for the purpose of raising pita plants and extracting the fibre, registered under the companies ordinance, and there are several private plantations. A small shipment of fibre was made to New York within the year from one of the latter, and the first quality fetched a cent a pound more than the second quality—an equal price to the best from Yucatan. This speaks well for the quality of the fibre which can be produced in these islands, and promises a bright future for the local fibre industry.

Banks.

The Government Savings Bank was established in January 1890, and the following table gives the number of depositors, and the amount due to them, on the 31st December in each of the two years which it has been open:—

—	No. of Depositors.	Amount due to Depositors.
		£
1890 - - - -	89	505
1891 - - - -	82	523

General Remarks.

The industries and products of the Dependency were well represented in the Turks and Caicos Islands court at the Jamaica Exhibition, and received awards of two diplomas of honour, one gold medal, four silver medals, one bronze medal and three honourable mentions in all.

In August, a hurricane passed the Islands, but the centre of the disturbance, being evidently considerably to the north of them, its full violence was not felt locally; and no serious damage to property, or loss of life on land, was caused. The local shipping, however, suffered considerably, and several small vessels and boats were driven ashore and either damaged or totally wrecked.

The Halifax and Bermuda Cable Company, Limited, having decided to extend the cable from Bermuda to the West Indies, and to establish a station at Grand Turk, made application to the Legislative Board to afford certain facilities to the company for carrying out the project, and the necessary ordinance was passed by the Board in December.

It should undoubtedly benefit these islands generally, to be brought more in touch than they are at present with other parts, and the cable should not only greatly facilitate business transactions, but should also cause an increase in the shipping, and it is to be hoped, therefore, that a station of the company will be established and in working order at no distant date.

H. HIGGINS,
Commissioner.

Grand Turk, March 21, 1892.

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For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

No. 36.

VICTORIA.

DIGEST OF THE STATISTICS FOR 1890.

(For Digest for 1889, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 4.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
February 1892.

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1892.

[C.—6563.–20.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
1	British Honduras	1889
2	Mauritius	,,
3	British Bechuanaland	1889–90
4	Victoria	1889
5	Newfoundland	,,
6	British New Guinea	1889–90
7	St. Vincent	1890
8	Bermuda	,,
9	Leeward Islands	1889
10	St. Lucia	1890
11	Bahamas	,,
12	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
13	Gibraltar	,,
14	Zululand	,,
15	Sierra Leone	,,
16	Barbados	,,
17	Falkland Islands	,,
18	Labuan	,,
19	British Honduras	,,
20	Basutoland	1890–91
21	Trinidad and Tobago	1890
22	Leeward Islands	,,
23	Grenada	,,
24	Straits Settlements	,,
25	British Guiana	,,
26	St. Helena	,,
27	Mauritius	,,
28	Gambia	,,
29	Hong Kong	,,
30	Ceylon	1889
31	Lagos	,,
32	Lagos	1890
33	Ceylon	,,
34	Newfoundland	,,
35	Jamaica	1889–91

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.

No. 36.

VICTORIA.

(For Digest for 1889, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 4.)

The Earl of HOPETOUN to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, Melbourne,
December 22, 1891

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship a copy of a digest of the statistics of Victoria for the year 1890.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HOPETOUN.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

DIGEST of the STATISTICS of VICTORIA, 1890, by HENRY HEYLYN HAYTER, C.M.G., Government Statist.

Position and boundaries of Victoria.

1. Victoria, so named after Her Most Gracious Majesty, although the smallest, is probably the richest and most prosperous as it is still the most populous* of the various Colonies situated on the Australian continent, of which it occupies the south-eastern portion. It is bounded on the north and north-east by the Colony of New South Wales, from which it is separated by the River Murray, and by a right line running in a south-easterly direction from a place near the head waters of that stream, called the Springs, on Forest Hill, to Cape Howe. On the west it is bounded by South Australia, the dividing line being about 242 geographical miles in length, approximating to the position of the 141st meridian of east longitude, and extending from the River Murray to the sea. On the south and south-east its shores are washed by the Southern Ocean, Bass's Straits, and the Pacific Ocean. It lies between the 34th and 39th parallels of south latitude, and the 141st and 150th meridians of east longitude. Its extreme length from east to west is about 420, its greatest breadth about 250, and its extent of coast-line nearly 600 geographical miles.

Executive authority.

2. The executive power is in the hands of a Governor appointed by the Crown, who acts under the advice of a responsible ministry, consisting of 10 members.

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* At the census of 1891, the total population of Victoria was returned as 1,140,405, that of New South Wales as 1,134,207; these figures are final.

VICTORIA.

Parliament of Victoria.

3. The legislative authority is vested in two houses of Parliament, viz., the Upper House or Legislative Council, consisting of 48 members returned in 14 provinces, each member being elected for six years, and the Lower House or Legislative Assembly, which consists of 95 members, elected for three years (unless dissolved sooner by the Governor), returned in 84 districts or electorates. The qualification for the Upper House is as follows:—For members, the possession of freehold property of an annual value of 100*l.*; for electors, the possession of freehold property rated in some municipal district at not less than 10*l.* per annum or occupation of leasehold property of not less than 25*l.* annual rating. Graduates of universities within the British dominions, barristers, and solicitors, legally qualified medical practitioners, officiating ministers of religion, certificated schoolmasters, matriculated students in the Melbourne University, and officers in the Army and Navy, when not on active service, also have votes for the Legislative Council. There is no property qualification for members of the Lower House, and every male of 21 years of age or upwards, untainted by crime, is allowed a vote.

Persons incapable of becoming members.

4. Judges; ministers of religion; persons holding any office or place of profit under the Crown, or employed in the public service for salary, wages, or emolument (except responsible Ministers); persons who are interested in any bargains or contracts entered into on behalf of Her Majesty; uncertificated bankrupts and insolvents; and persons attainted of treason, or convicted of any felony or infamous offence within any part of Her Majesty's dominions, are incapable of being elected or continuing to be members of either House of Parliament, neither can the same person be a member of the two Houses at the same time.

Salaries of Ministers.

5. The Constitution Act provides for the sum of 14,000*l.* being set aside annually for the payment of nine Ministers, of whom not more than eight may be members of the Assembly, but at least four must be members of the Assembly or Council, whilst a subsequent Act provides for the appointment of an additional Minister, at a salary of 1,500*l.* per annum.

Members may not accept offices of profit

6. No person who is a member of either House of Parliament or has not ceased to be one for a period of six months may accept any office or place of profit under the Crown, except the office of responsible Minister, judge of the Supreme Court, President or Chairman of Committee of the Legislative Council, or Speaker or Chairman of Committees of the Legislative Assembly. Should he do so he is liable to forfeit the sum of 50*l.* for every week he may hold such office or place, together with full costs of suit to any person who may sue for the same.

Payment of members.

7. Members of the Legislative Council receive no payment for their attendance in Parliament, but every member of the Legislative Assembly, who is not in receipt of any official salary or annual payment from the State, is entitled to receive reimbursement of his expenses in relation to his attendance in the discharge of his Parliamentary duties at the rate of 300*l.* per annum out of the Consolidated Revenue.

Electors' rights.

8. The names of ratepayers in municipal districts are placed on the Rolls of the Legislative Assembly, also on those of the Legislative Council, if qualified, without action on their part, but non-ratepayers, or property holders residing in another electorate and not enrolled as ratepayers, wishing to vote for either House of Parliament must take out "Electors' Rights," for which they are required to pay the sum of sixpence. These "rights" must be renewed every three years.

Plural voting.

9. Persons paying rates in several provinces or electoral districts may vote in all such at the same election, but no one may vote more than once in the same province or electoral district, although he may have several properties rated independently therein.

Franchise extended to police.

10. By the Police Franchise Act, 1888 (52 Vict., No. 969), assented to on the 20th November 1888, members of the police force were for the first time allowed to vote at elections of members of either House of Parliament.

Foreigners must be naturalised.

11. Foreigners who are not naturalised or denizen subjects of Her Majesty, and have not resided in Victoria for 12 months previous to the 1st January or 1st July of any year, are not qualified to vote at elections of members of either House of Parliament.

Males must be of age. Females not qualified.

12. Males under 21 years of age and females of any age are not qualified to be returned as members of, or to vote at elections for, either House of Parliament. No one can be elected for the Upper House until he is of the full age of 30 years.

Electors on the rolls.

13. Of the electoral districts for the Legislative Assembly, 11 are represented by two members each, and 73 by one member each. Six of the electoral provinces for the Council are represented by four members each, and eight by three members each.

The number of electors on the rolls of both Houses of the Legislature in 1888–90 and 1889–91 is shown in the following table :—

Electors on the Rolls, 1890 *and* 1891.

Description of Roll.	Legislative Council.		Legislative Assembly.	
	1889–90.	1890–91.	1889–90.	1890–91.
Ratepayers' roll -	150,682	156,170	218,960	229,107
General roll - -	1,112	724	35,902	29,469
Total - -	151,803	156,894	254,862	258,576

municipal governments

14. Municipal or local government is almost universal throughout Victoria, all but about one hundredth part of its whole area

VICTORIA.

being divided into urban or rural municipalities. The former are called cities, towns, and boroughs, and the latter shires. They are regulated under the Local Government Act (54 Vict., No. 1,112), each municipality being a body corporate, with perpetual succession and a common seal, and capable of suing and being sued, and of purchasing, holding, and alienating land. The cities, towns, and boroughs now number 60 and the shires 134. They have power to levy rates, and are also subsidised by the State. Their peculiar functions are to make, maintain, and control all streets, roads, bridges, ferries, culverts, watercourses, and jetties within their respective boundaries; also to regulate under proper bye-laws the markets, pounds, abattoirs, baths, places of recreation, charitable institutions, and the arrangements for sewerage, lighting, water supply, prevention of fire, and carrying on of noxious trades.

Incorporating Melbourne and Geelong.

15. Melbourne and Geelong, the latter of which was for many years the place of second importance in the Colony, having been incorporated under special statutes prior to the establishment of municipal government on a large scale throughout the Colony, are not subject to the Local Government Acts except in a few comparatively unimportant particulars. Melbourne was incorporated as a town by Act 6 Vict., No. 7, which was assented to on the 12th August 1842, and was afterwards ordained a city by Royal Letters Patent, dated at Westminster on the 25th June 1847, and gazetted in Sydney on the 5th February 1848. Geelong was incorporated as a town on the 12th October 1849 under Act 13 Vict., No. 40.

Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works.

16. An Act to provide for the better management of the Metropolis and for the creation of a Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works to give effect thereto, was passed on the 20th December 1890, and, as to the election of members, the date of holding the first meeting, and other preliminary matters, came into immediate operation, but the other provisions were not to come into force until the day of the first meeting of the board. The Act is divided into seven parts, dealing respectively with the board's constitution; water supply, sewerage, and drainage; metropolitan general fund and rating; borrowing powers; acquisition of land; and miscellaneous. The board is to be a body corporate, consisting of a chairman elected by the board, and of 39 members elected by the Councils of the City of Melbourne and the 23 surrounding municipalities, all within a radius of 10 miles from the General Post Office; but such members can only retain their seats on the board so long as they continue to be members of their respective municipal councils. Seven members are allotted to the municipality of Melbourne, four to South Melbourne, three to Praham, two each to four other municipalities, and one member each to the remaining 17. After the first annual election, each member will be elected for three years, whilst the terms of membership of the first elected members are so arranged that after the year 1894 one third of the members for the

whole district will retire annually. The chairman, whose salary is to be fixed by the board between the limits of 1,500*l.* and 2,000*l.* per annum, will hold office for a period of four years, but is eligible for re-election. The whole of the metropolitan water supply and sewerage works are vested in the board, embracing all lands, reservoirs, tramways, mains, buildings, plant and machinery, &c., in connexion with the supply of water to the inhabitants of the metropolis, and all sewers and drains within the metropolis or works in connexion therewith; also all the bed soil and banks of the River Yarra, and all other public rivers, creeks and water-courses within the metropolis, except so much thereof as is already vested in the Melbourne Harbour Trust and Railway Commissioners. The liability for that portion of the outstanding public debt which was incurred for the construction of the Melbourne waterworks, amounting to 2,139,934*l.*, is to be transferred to the board, which is to be held liable to the Treasurer of Victoria for the due payment of principal and interest. The revenue of the board is to be derived chiefly from rates levied on all rateable property in the district, the annual rate not to exceed 1*s.* in the pound on the net annual value of such property, for the due collection and payment of which the various municipal councils are held responsible. The board is empowered, in addition to loans raised by the Government, to borrow money by the issue of debentures so that the total amount outstanding at any one time shall not exceed 5,000,000*l.*; it is also allowed a bank over-draft on current account not exceeding 100,000*l.* All officers employed at the passing of the Act in the Melbourne Sewerage and Water Supply Department are placed under the control of the board, and become thenceforth officers thereof, subject to the observance of all existing or accruing rights and privileges.

Governors

17. Subjoined is a list of the Governors and Acting Governors of Victoria, with the dates of their assumption of and retirement from office:—

Governors of Victoria.

Name.	Date of Assumption of Office.	Date of Retirement from Office.
Charles Joseph La Trobe -	30th September, 1839*	
	15th July, 1851 -	5th May, 1854.
John Vesey Fitzgerald Foster (Acting) - - -	8th May, 1854 -	22nd June, 1854.
Sir Charles Hotham, K.C.B. -	22nd June, 1854 -	31st December, 1855.
Major-General Edward Macarthur (Acting) - - -	1st January, 1856 -	26th December, 1856.
Sir Henry Barkly, K.C.B. - -	26th December, 1856	10th September, 1863.
Sir Charles Henry Darling, K.C.B.	11th September, 1863	7th May, 1866.

* At the first of these dates Mr. La Trobe assumed the office of Superintendent of Port Phillip; at the second he became Lieutenant-Governor of Victoria.

VICTORIA.

Name.	Date of Assumption of Office.	Date of Retirement from Office.
Brigadier-General George Jackson Carey, C.B. (Acting) - -	7th May, 1866 -	15th August, 1866.
The Hon. Sir John Henry Thomas Manners Sutton, K.C.B.* -	15th August, 1866 -	2nd March, 1873.
Sir William Foster Stawell, Kt. (Acting) - - -	3rd March, 1873 -	19th March, 1873.
Sir George Ferguson Bowen, G.C.M.G. - - -	31st March, 1873 -	22nd February, 1879.
Sir Redmond Barry, Kt. (Acting) -	3rd January, 1875 -	10th January, 1875.
Sir William Foster Stawell, Kt. (Acting) - - -	11th January, 1875 -	14th January, 1876.
The Most Hon. George Augustus Constantine Phipps, Marquis of Normanby, G.C.M.G., P.C. -	27th February, 1879	18th April, 1884.
Sir William Foster Stawell, Kt. (Acting) - - -	18th April, 1884 -	15th July 1884.
Sir Henry Brougham Loch, G.C.M.G., K.C.B. - -	15th July, 1884 -	15th November, 1889.
Sir William Foster Stawell, K.C.M.G. (Lieutenant-Governor)† - -	6th November, 1886	12th March, 1889.
Sir William Cleaver Francis Robinson, G.C.M.G. (Acting)	9th March, 1889 -	17th October, 1889.
	16th November, 1889	27th November, 1889.
The Right Hon. John Adrian Louis Hope, Earl of Hopetoun, G.C.M.G. - - -	28th November 1889	Still in Office.

Note.—Captain William Lonsdale, formerly of the 4th Regiment, was appointed Police Magistrate of the District of Port Phillip on the 9th September 1836 and assumed office on the 29th of the same month. In that capacity he was in charge of the district until the assumption of office as superintendent by Mr. C. J. La Trobe. Subsequently, Captain Lonsdale acted as superintendent during the temporary absence of Mr. C. J. La Trobe, who was called on to administer the Government of Tasmania from 13th October 1846, to the 25th January 1847.

Duration of Governorships.

18. Since Victoria has been an independent Colony, the average time during which the Governors of Victoria, prior to Lord Hopetoun, not including Acting Governors, have held office, has been about four years and seven months.

Interregna in Victoria.

19. During the 12 days between the 19th and the 31st March 1873, the former being the day on which Sir W. F. Stawell left the Colony, and the latter that on which Sir G. F. Bowen arrived, also during the five days between the 22nd and 27th February 1879, the former being the day on which Sir G. F. Bowen left, and the latter that on which Lord Normanby arrived, there was neither governor nor acting governor in Victoria.

Ministries.

20. Since the inauguration of responsible government, 24 ministries have held office in Victoria.

* Succeeded to the title of Viscount Canterbury, December, 1869.

† Date of appointment. Sir W. F. Stawell never acted after his appointment as Lieutenant-Governor. He died on the date given in the next column. No Lieutenant-Governor has been appointed since.

21. The number of days each ministry remained in power is given in the following table :—

Duration of ministries.

Duration of Ministries.

Name of Premier.	Duration of Office.	Name of Premier.	Duration of Office.
	Days.		Days.
1. William Clark Haines -	469	13. Charles Gavan Duffy -	357
2. John O'Shanassy -	49	14. James Goodall Francis -	781
3. William Clark Haines -	375	15. George Briscoe Kerferd -	372
4. John O'Shanassy - -	596	16. Graham Berry - -	74
5. William Nicholson -	396	17. Sir James McCulloch, K.C.M.G. - -	579
6. Richard Heales - -	353	18. Graham Berry - -	1,019
7. John O'Shanassy - -	590	19. James Service - -	151
8. James McCulloch - -	1,775	20. Graham Berry - -	340
9. Charles Sladen - -	66	21. Sir Bryan O'Loghlen, Bart.	607
10. James McCulloch - -	436	22. James Service - -	1,078
11. John Alexander Macpherson - -	201	23. Duncan Gillies - -	1,722
12. James McCulloch - -	436	24. James Munro - -	Still in Office.

22. By means of the figures in the last column it is ascertained that the average duration of Victorian Ministries, prior to the Ministry now in office, has been 555 days, or one year and 6¼ months.

Average duration of ministries.

23. At the last 12 elections for the Legislative Council the proportion of electors who have recorded their votes in provinces where the election has been contested has rarely been much greater than half, and on six out of the 12 occasions has been less than half. The following are the proportions at each election :—

Electors who voted Legislative Council.

Proportion of Voters at Elections for the Legislative Council, 1870 *to* 1890.

Year of Election.	Proportion of Electors of Contested Provinces who voted.	Year of Election.	Proportion of Electors of Contested Provinces who voted.
	Per cent.		Per cent.
1870 - -	46·65	1882 - -	55·13
1872 - -	54·07	1884 - -	56·70
1874 - -	45·99	1886 - -	48·04
1876 - -	51·16	1888 - -	51·76
1878 - -	45·61	1889 - -	47·07
1880 - -	57·18	1890 - -	47·29

24. At elections for the Legislative Assembly, close upon two-thirds of the electors have generally recorded their votes in contested districts; whereas in elections for the Legislative Council the proportion has been rarely much above half, as has been

Electors who voted Legislative Assembly.

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already shown. The following are the proportions who voted at the last 10 general elections of members of the Lower House in districts in which the election has been contested :—

Proportion of Voters at General Elections for the Legislative Assembly, 1866 *to* 1889.

Year of General Election.	Proportion of Electors of Contested Districts who voted.	Year of General Election.	Proportion of Electors of Contested Districts who voted.
	Per cent.		Per cent.
1866 - -	55·10	1880 (February) -	66·56
1868 - -	61·59	1880 (July) -	65·85
1871 - -	65·02	1883 - -	64·96
1874 - -	61·00	1886 - -	64·70
1877 - -	62·29	1889 - -	66·58

Parliaments.

25. The present is the 14th Parliament, since the inauguration of Responsible Government in Victoria. The following table shows the number of sessions in each Parliament, the dates of opening, and of closing, of dissolution, also the duration of each session and of each Parliament :—

Parliaments.

No. of Parliament.	No. of Session.	Date of Opening.	Date of Closing or of Dissolution.	Duration of Session.	Duration of Parliament.
				Days.	Days.
1	1	21st November, 1856 -	24th November, 1857 -	368	
	2	3rd December, 1857 -	4th June, 1858 - -	183	
	3	7th October, 1858 - -	24th February, 1859 -	140	
			9th August, 1859	—	991
2	1	13th October, 1859 -	18th September, 1860 -	341	
	2	20th November, 1860 -	3rd July, 1861 - -	225	
			11th July, 1861 - -	—	637
3	1	30th August, 1861 - -	18th June, 1862 -	292	
	2	7th November, 1862 -	11th September, 1863 -	308	
	3	26th January, 1864 -	2nd June, 1864 - -	128	
			25th August, 1864 - -	—	1,091
	1	28th November, 1864 -	28th November, 1865 -	366	
			11th December, 1865 -	—	378
5	1	12th February, 1866 -	5th April, 1866 - -	52	
	2	11th April, 1866 - -	1st June, 1866 - -	51	
	3	17th January, 1867 -	10th September, 1867 -	236	

No. of Parliament.	No. of Session.	Date of Opening.	Date of Closing or of Dissolution.	Duration of session.	Duration of Parliament.
		18th September, 1867 -	8th November, 1867 -	51	
	5	5th November, 1867 -	25th November, 1867 -	1	
			30th December, 1867 -	—	686
6	1	13th March, 1868 - -	29th September, 1868 -	200	
	2	11th February, 1869 -	29th December, 1869 -	321	
	3	15th February, 1870 -	15th July, 1870 - -	150	
	4	27th October, 1870 - -	29th December, 1870 -	63	
			25th January, 1871 - -	—	1,048
7	1	25th April, 1871 - -	23rd November, 1871 - -	212	
	2	30th April, 1872 - -	17th December, 1872 -	231	
	3	13th May, 1873 - -	25th November, 1873 -	196	
			9th March, 1874 - -	—	1,049
8	1	19th May, 1874 - -	24th December, 1874 -	219	
	2	25th May, 1875 - -	7th April, 1876 - -	317	
	3	11th July, 1876 - -	22nd December, 1876 -	164	
			25th April, 1877 - -	—	1,072
9	1	22nd May, 1877 - -	9th April, 1878 - -	322	
	2	9th July, 1878 - -	6th December, 1878 -	150	
	3	8th July, 1879 - -	5th February, 1880 - -	212	
			9th February, 1880 - -	—	993
10	1	11th May, 1880 - -	26th June, 1880 - -	46	
			29th June, 1880 - -	—	49
11	1	22nd July, 1880 - -	2nd August, 1881 - -	376	
	2	4th August, 1881 - -	24th December, 1881 -	142	
	3	25th April, 1882 - -	3rd February, 1883 - -	284	926
12	1	27th February, 1883 -	19th April, 1883 - -	51	
	2	3rd July, 1883 - -	3rd November, 1883 -	123	
	3	10th June, 1884 - -	12th December, 1884 -	185	
	4	17th June, 1885 - -	18th December, 1885 -	184	
			19th February, 1886 -	—	1,088
13	1	16th March, 1886 - -	16th December, 1886 -	275	
	2	7th June, 1887 - -	17th December, 1887 -	193	
	3	19th June, 1888 - -	21st December, 1888 -	185	
			11th March, 1889 - -	—	1,091
14	1	9th April, 1889 - -	29th November, 1889 -	234	
	2	21st May, 1890 - -	20th December, 1890 -	213	
	3	23rd June, 1891 - -			

26. Parliaments in Victoria have existed, on the average, for 854 days, or about two years and four months. Sessions have lasted, on the average, for 200 days, or rather more than 6½ months. Duration of Parliaments.

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Persons employed by the State.

27 According to a return prepared in 1890, the total number of persons in the service of the Victorian Government, exclusive of persons temporarily employed, or whose services are not wholly retained by the State, is about 24,800. Of these, about 10,000 are under the Public Service Board, 11,800 under the Railway Commisioners, and the bulk of the remainder are in the Police and Defence Forces, as is shown by the following figures:—

Under "Public Service Act":—		Under "Railway Commissioners Act" -	11,844
Public Service Board -	3	Police - - -	1,501
First Division -	11	Defence Forces -	588
Professional Division -	165	Residue - -	788
Clerical Division -	2,033		
Non-Clerical Division -	3,283		
Teachers - -	4,600		
Total -	10,095	Grand total -	24,816

Census of 1891.

28. A census of Victoria was taken on the 5th April 1891 that being the date on which the census was also taken in the United Kingdom, in the other Australasian Colonies, and in most other portions of the British Empire.

Population of 1891.

29. According to the Victorian census the total population of the Colony was as follows:—

Population, Census of 5th April 1891.*

Males - - - -	599,172
Females - - - -	541,233
Total - -	1,140,405

Increase of population.

30. The increase of population between the census of 1881 and 1891 was 278,059, viz., 147,089 males and 130,970 females, as against an increase of 130,818, viz., 51,033 males and 79,785 females, between the censuses of 1871 and 1881, and an increase of 191,206, viz., 72,399 males and 118,807 females, between the censuses of 1861 and 1871. It will be observed that, whilst in the last intercensal period the increase of males was greater than that of females, in the two previous intercensal periods the increase of females was greater than that of males.

* The figures have not been finally checked, but it is believed they are very nearly accurate.

Rate of increase of population.

31. Between the censuses of 1881 and 1891, the rate of increase of the total population (32·2 per cent.) was much greater than that between 1871 and 1881 (17·9 per cent.), but not so great as that between 1861 and 1871 (35·4 per cent.).

Rate of increase of males.

32. The rate of increase of the male population was considerably greater in the last than in either of the two previous intercensal periods, the per-centage being 32·5 between 1881 and 1891, 12·7 between 1871 and 1881, and 22·0 between 1861 and 1871.

Rate of increase of females.

33. The rate of increase of the female population was, as in the case of the male population, greater in the last than in the middle period; but it was less than in the first period, the per-centage being 31·9 between 1881 and 1891, 24·1 between 1871 and 1881, and 56·1 between 1861 and 1871.

Births over deaths in 10 years.

34. According to the registrations, the excess of births over deaths between the censuses of 1881 and 1891 was 161,699, viz., 73,406 of males and 88,293 of females, thus, the Colony not only retained a number equivalent to the whole of this natural increase, but gained in addition 116,360 persons, viz., 73,683 males and 42,677 females, by immigration. In the previous intercensal period (1871 to 1881) the excess of registered births over registered deaths was, of males 66,923, and of females 78,980; but the Colony lost by emigration a number of males equivalent to all those born and 15,890 more, and a number of females equivalent to all born except 805, the net loss in those 10 years being thus 15,085.

Actual, apparent, and estimated population.

35. Between the censuses of 1881 and 1891 the excess of recorded arrivals by sea over recorded departures by sea was 183,347, viz., 126,817 of males and 56,530 of females. If the numbers, and those just quoted showing the excess of births over deaths, had been correct, and the arrivals and departures overland had balanced each other, the census would have shown a population of 1,207,392, viz., 652,306 males and 555,086 females, or 66,987, viz., 53,134 males and 13,853 females, more than it actually did. The totals may, to a certain extent, have been affected by the overland emigration, of which no account is kept, but there is no doubt that the main disturbance has arisen from the circumstance that a large number of the departures by sea are unrecorded. The defective nature of the emigration returns being known, an allowance was made for it each quarter in the estimates of population published at those periods by the Government statist, the whole allowance during the 10 years 1881–1889 being 52,131, viz., 41,333 males and 10,798 females; this reduction turned out to be insufficient, as the estimate brought on to the census day exceeded the population then enumerated by 14,856, viz., 11,801 males and 3,055 females. The following table shows the actual, apparent, and estimated population at the date of the

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ceusus of 1891, and the numbers by which the apparent and estimated exceeded the actual population:—

Actual, Apparent, and Estimated Population, 5th April 1891.*

Sex.	Population of Victoria.			Excess over Actual Population of	
	Actual.†	Apparent.‡	Estimated§.	Apparent Population.	Estimated Population.
Males - - -	599,172	652,306	610,973	53,134	11,801
Females - -	541,233	555,086	544,288	13,853	3,055
Total - -	1,140,405	1,207,392	1,155,261	66,987	14,856

Proportion of unrecorded emigrants.

36. During the period intervening between the last two censuses, the recorded departures from the Colony numbered 602,189, viz., 411,792 males and 190,397 females. Adding the unrecorded departures, as derived from the last column but one of the last table, to these numbers, and calculating the proportion of such departures to the whole, it is found that nearly 10½ per cent. of those who left the Colony in the 10 years ended with the census day 1891, viz., 11⅘ per cent. of the males, and 7⅓ per cent. of the females, passed out by sea or over the borders without their departure being officially recognised. In the 10 years 1871-81 these proportions were as follow: both sexes, 17 per cent.; males, 19 per cent.; females, 11 per cent.

Disturbance by unregistered births.

37. It should be pointed out that the number by which the apparent exceeds the actual population does not represent all who leave the Colony unobserved, as whilst, practically, all the deaths are registered, a number of the births escape registration, the population estimates being thereby disturbed in an opposite direction to that due to unrecorded departures, therefore the number of the latter must really be greater than that shown by the figures.

Actual and apparent population, 1881.

38. At the census of 1881 the actual was found to be less than the apparent population by 67,437, or 55,204 males and 12,233 females. These numbers are greater as regards the total by 450, and as regards the males by 2,070, but less as regards the females by 1,620, than the difference found to exist at the recent census.

* Figures not finally checked.

† Enumerated at the census of 1891.

‡ Made up by adding excess of recorded births over recorded deaths, and of recorded arrivals over recorded departures, between census of 1881 and 1891.

§ Made up by deducting an allowance of 41,333 males and 10,798 females, from the apparent population.

39. Worked back from the census figures, the population of Victoria at the end of 1890 and the mean or average population of that year may be set down as follows:—

	Population, 31st December 1890.		Mean Population, 1890.
Males - -	596,064	Males - -	589,310
Females - -	537,202	Females - -	529,190
Total -	1,133,266	Total -	1,118,500

40. The census of 1891 shows that the sexes in Victoria have slightly diverged from equality since the previous census, the population of females to every 100 males being 90·33, as against 90·75 in 1881. In 1871 the proportion of females was 82·4, and in 1861, 64·4, to every 100 males.

Density of population.

41. The population returned at the recent census furnishes a proportion of nearly 13 (12·98) persons to the square mile, or 1,298 persons to 100 square miles. The proportion in 1881 was 9·8 persons, in 1871 8·3 persons, and in 1861 6·1 persons, to the square mile.

Urban and rural population.

42. In the following table the area of Victoria is divided into three districts the first being the metropolitan (Greater Melbourne); extending in all directions for a distance of 10 miles from the centre of the city, the second, viz., the extra-metropolitan towns, including the total space embraced in cities, towns, and boroughs (present or former) outside the limits of Greater Melbourne; and the third, viz., the extra-urban or rural, including the remaining portions of the Colony. In each of these districts the population is shown as enumerated at the recent census, the ratio of the population of each district to that of the whole Colony, and the number of persons to the square mile; also the numerical and centesimal increase during the 10 years ended with the date of the census of 1891:—

Urban and Rural Population, Census of 1891.

Districts.	Estimated Area in Square Miles.	Population, 5th April, 1891.*			Increase in 10 Years.	
		Total.	Proportions per Cent.	Persons to the Sq. Mile.	Number.	Per Cent.
Towns — Metropolitan - -	256	491,378	43·09	1,919	208,431	73·67
Towns — Extra-Metropolitan -	376	192,880	16·91	513	3,297	1·74
Total Urban - -	632	684,258	60·00	1,083	211,728	44·81
Extra Urban or Rural - -	87,252	456,147	40·00	5·2	66,331	17·02
Total of Victoria - -	87,884	1,140,405	100·00	13	278,059	32·24

* Subject to future revision.

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Increasing proportion of metropolitan population.

43. It will be observed that the urban exceeds the rural population by 228,000 persons, the increase of the former in 10 years being 45 per cent., whilst that of the latter was only 17 per cent. The increase in the metropolitan district much exceeded that in any of the others, its population being now equal to 43 per cent. of that of the whole Colony, as against only 33 per cent. in 1881. The following were the proportions of the metropolitan to the whole population of the Colony at the last four census periods :—

Proportion of Population of Greater Melbourne to Total Population of Victoria.

	Per cent.
1861 - - - - -	25·89
1871 - - - - -	28·87
1881 - - - - -	32·81
1891 - - - - -	43·09

Area and population of Greater Melbourne.

44. The following table shows the estimated area and the population in 1881 and 1891, of the various municipalities comprised in the metropolitan district; also the numerical and centesimal increase of the population of each municipality in the interval between the two periods, and the density of the population of each municipality at the latter period :—

Greater Melbourne: Area and Population of Sub-Districts, 1881 and 1891.

Municipal Sub-Districts (1891).	Estimated Area in Acres, 1891.	Enumerated Population.*		Increase in 10 Years.		Persons to the Acre, 1891.
		1881.	1891.	Number.	Per cent.	
Melbourne City - - -	5,020	65,859	73,514	7,655	11·62	14·64
North Melbourne Town -	565	17,839	20,985	3,146	17·64	37·14
Fitzroy City - - -	923	23,118	32,455	9,337	40·39	35·16
Collingwood City - -	1,139	23,829	35,066	11,237	47·16	30·79
Richmond City - - -	1,430	23,405	38,770	15,365	65·65	27·11
Brunswick Town - -	2,722	6,222	21,955	15,733	252·86	8·07
Northcote Town - - -	2,850	1,584	7,741	6,157	388·70	2·72
Prahran City - - -	2,320	21,168	39,699	18,531	87·54	17·11
South Melbourne City - -	2,311	25,374	41,730	16,356	64·46	18·06
Port Melbourne Borough -	2,366	8,771	13,058	4,287	48·88	5·52
St. Kilda City - - -	1,886	11,654	19,885	8,231	70·63	10·54
Brighton Town - - -	3,288	4,755	9,887	5,132	107·93	3·01
Essendon Town - - -	4,000	5,061	14,411	19,308	381·51	3·60
Flemington and Kensington Borough - - -	1,088		9,958			9·15

* Figures for 1891 are subject to future revision.

Municipal Sub-Districts (1891).	Estimated Area in Acres, 1891.	Enumerated Population.		Increase in 10 Years.		Persons to the Acre, 1891.
		1881.	1891.	Number.	Per cent.	
Hawthorn City - - -	2,389	6,019	19,623	13,604	226·02	8·21
Kew Borough - - -	3,553	4,288	8,476	4,188	97·67	2·39
Footscray City - - -	3,075	5,993	19,149	13,156	219·52	6·23
Williamstown Town - -	2,775	9,034	15 936	6,902	76·40	5·74
Oakleigh Borough - -	2,178	178	1,235	1,057	593·83	·57
Caulfield Shire - - -	6,080	2,488	7,992	5,504	221·22	1·31
Malvern Shire - -	4,000	1,797	8,142	6,345	353·09	2·04
Boroondara Shire - -	8,320	1,525	6,206	4,681	306·95	·75
Preston Shire - - -	8,900	1,410	3,563	2,153	152·69	·40
Coburg Shire - - -	4,800	2,659	5,754	3,095	116·40	1·20
Remainder of District - -	85,964	7,439	14,217	6,778	91·12	·17
Shipping in Hobson's Bay and River - - - -	—	1,478	1,971	493	33·36	—
Total, including shipping -	163,942	282,947	491,378	208,431	73·67	3·00

Density of Metropolitan population.

45. The density of the population of each of the component parts of Greater Melbourne in 1891 is shown in the last column of the table. It will be noticed that the most thickly-peopled municipality is North Melbourne, with over 37 persons to the acre; then Fitzroy, with 35; Collingwood, with 31; Richmond, with 27; South Melbourne, with 18; Prahran, with 17; and Melbourne City, with 14, persons to the acre. In explanation of the fact that some of the suburbs are more densely populated than the city, it will be remembered that large numbers of people who come to business spend their days in the latter, but have their residences, and would therefore be enumerated, in the former. It should also be borne in mind that, in some of the municipalities, extensive parks, gardens, and other public reserves exist, so that the population is really living in closer proximity than the figures indicate. Melbourne City contains 1,723 acres of such reserves; Kew, 634 acres; South Melbourne, 474 acres; Williamstown, 446 acres; Flemington and Kensington, 307 acres; St. Kilda, 250 acres; Richmond, 190½ acres; Brighton, 166½ acres; Port Melbourne, 80¼ acres; Essendon, 54 acres; Fitzroy, 41 acres; Collingwood, 39 acres; Footscray, 36 acres; and smaller reserves in some of the other municipalities. If the reserves be excluded, the persons to the acre in the places named would be as follows:—Fitzroy, 36·8; Collingwood, 31·9; Richmond, 31·3; South Melbourne, 22·7; Melbourne City, 22·3; St. Kilda, 12·2; Flemington and Kensington, 12·7; Williamstown, 6·8; Footscray, 6·3; Port Melbourne, 5·7; Essendon, 3·6; Brighton, 3·2; and Kew, 2·9.

Population of Melbourne and other cities compared.

46. According to the recent census Melbourne is the most populous town in the southern hemisphere; is more populous than any town in the United Kingdom except London, Glasgow,

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Liverpool, and Manchester; than any town on the continent of Europe, except Paris, Berlin, Vienna, Constantinople, St. Petersburg, Moscow, and Naples; or than any town in the United States, except New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, and Brooklyn. It should, however, be remembered that the population of the suburbs is included in the case of Melbourne, but it may not be so in the case of some of the towns which appear to have smaller populations according to the statements published.

Populations of Australasian Colonies, 1881 to 1891.

47. The enumerated population according to the censuses of 1881 and 1891, together with the proportions of the sexes, and the number of persons to the square mile, in each of the Australasian Colonies, is shown in the following table:—

Enumerated Populations of Australasian Colonies, 1881 *and* 1891.*

Colony.	Census Year.	Enumerated Population.			Females to 100 Males.	Persons to the Square Mile.
		Males.	Females.	Total.		
Victoria - -	1881	452,083	410,263	862,346	90·75	9·813
	1891	599,172	541,233	1,140,405	90·33	12·976
New South Wales	1881	411,149	340,319	751,468	82·79	2·431
	1891	616,008	518,199	1,134,207	84·12	3·668
Queensland - -	1881	125,325	88,200	213,525	70·38	·320
	1891	223,781	170,157	393,938	76·04	·589
South Australia -	1881	149,530	130,335	279,865	87·16	·310
	1891	166,374	153,632	320,006	92·34	·354
Western Australia -	1881	17,062	12,646	29,708	74·12	·030
	1891	29,878	19,957	49,835	66·80	·051
Tasmania - -	1881	61,162	54,543	115,705	89·18	4·387
	1891	77,560	69,107	146,667	89·10	5·561
New Zealand -	1881	269 605	220,328	489,933	81·70	4·700
	1891	333,175	293,655	626,830	88·14	6·014

More persons in Victoria than in New South Wales

48. It will be noticed that, according to the census of 1891, the population of Victoria is still greater than that of New South Wales. The male population of the latter exceeds that of Victoria; but the effect of this upon the numbers of the total population is neutralised by the large excess of females in this Colony. The official estimates published prior to the recent census indicated that New South Wales had a larger population than Victoria, but the simultaneous enumeration of the two Colonies has shown the reverse to be the case.

* The figures for 1891 are subject to future revision.

Population of Australia and Australasia, 1881 and 1891.

49. In the 10 years which intervened between the censuses of 1881 and 1891, the inhabitants on the continent of Australia increased by 901,000 and in Australasia, including not only the continental Colonies, but also Tasmania and New Zealand, they increased by 1,069,000. The numbers as well as the proportions of the sexes and the density of population, at both enumerations were as follows:—

Enumerated Population of Australasia, 1881 *and* 1891.

Continent of—	Census Year.	Enumerated Population.*			Females to 100 Males.	Persons to the Square Mile.
		Males.	Females.	Total.		
Australia - -	1881	1,155,149	981,763	2,136,912	84·99	0·726
	1891	1,635,213	1,403,178	3,038,391	85·81	1·032
Ditto with Tasmania and New Zealand -	1881	1,485,916	1,256,634	2,742,550	84·57	0·892
	1891	2,045,948	1,765,940	3,811,888	86·31	1·239

Sexes approaching equality.

50. According to the experience of the intercensal period, the proportionate excess of males over females shows a tendency to diminish both on the Australian continent and in Australasia as a whole.

Proportion Victorians in Australasia.

51. A comparison of the figures in the last two tables will show that considerably more than one-third of the inhabitants of Australia, and more than two sevenths of the inhabitants of the Australasian group, are living in Victoria.

Annual rates of increase, 1861 to 1891.

52. The following table shows the annual rate of increase of the population of each Colony in each of the last three decennial periods:—

Annual Increase of Population, 1861 *to* 1891.

Colony.	Annual Rate of Increase, per cent., between the Censuses of		
	1861 and 1871.	1871 and 1881.	1881 and 1889 (not final).
Victoria - - - -	3·07	1·66	2·83
New South Wales - -	3·69	4·08	4·20
Queensland - - -	14·65	6·11	6·32
South Australia - - -	3·88	4·19	1·35
Western Australia - -	5·28	1·63	5·31
Total Australia -	3·94	3·17	3·58
Tasmania - - -	1·14	1·37	2·40
New Zealand - - -	11·80	6·63	2·49
Total Australasia -	4·51	3·61	3·35

* The figures for 1891 are subject to future revision.

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Rate of increase, 1881 to 1891.

53. Except in very small communities, an annual increase of the population of 3 per cent. may be regarded as a high rate, and even that could not, under ordinary conditions, be maintained except by the aid of immigration. For it rarely happens that over a series of years the rate of natural increase (*i.e.*, by excess of births over deaths) exceeds 2 per cent. Indeed, in almost every country it is below 1½ per cent.; although exceptional instances occur, as in the case of some of the Australasian Colonies, where the rates have over a series of years considerably exceeded even 2 per cent., notably New Zealand, where the rate has averaged as high as 2·8 per cent. Such high rates, however, are unusual, and are generally due to the presence of an abnormally large proportion of the population being at the reproductive ages, consequent on a considerable influx of immigrants. A glance at the last table will show that in Queensland, Western Australia, and New South Wales, the annual rate of increase in the 10 years ended with 1891 has been considerably over 3 per cent., and although in the other Colonies it has been less than 3 per cent., the average for the whole of Australasia has been over 3⅓ per cent., and for the continent of Australia 3⅔ per cent.

Rates of increase at three periods compared.

54. On comparing the rates of increase at three periods, it will be observed that the population of Victoria increased one and three quarter times as fast at the last as at the second period, but not quite so fast as at the first period; also that the population of New South Wales increased much faster at the last than at the first, and a little faster than at the second periods. Queensland and New Zealand had by far the highest rates of increase at the first and second periods, but, whilst Queensland still maintained a high position, New Zealand at the last period is shown to have had a lower rate than any Colony, except Tasmania or South Australia.

Probable Australasian populations, 1901.

55. In view of the increases shown in the table it may fairly be estimated that when the next simultaneous census of the Colonies is taken, viz., in 1901, the inhabitants of the Australian continent will be found to number at least 4,310,000, and those of that continent with the addition of Tasmania and New Zealand will be found to number close upon 5,300,000.

Time Australian population doubles itself.

56. In the 10 years ended with the date of the census of 1891, the rate of increase of the population of the Australian continent was a little over 42 per cent., and of the continent combined with Tasmania and New Zealand just 39 per cent. At these rates, the population of Australia would double itself in less than 20 years and that of Australasia in 21 years.

Time Victorian population doubles itself.

57. Between the censuses of 1881 and 1891 the increase of the Victorian population was 32¼ per cent. At this rate that population would double itself in 25 years.

Immigration and emigration, 1890.

58. The arrivals and departures by sea* recorded during 1890 also the excess of the former over the latter, were as follow:—

* No account is kept of the arrivals or departures overland.

Immigration and Emigration, 1890.

—	Males.	Females.	Total.
Arrivals by sea - - -	52,171	27,606	79,777
Departures by sea - - -	42,740	21,080	63,820
Excess of arrivals - -	9,431	6,526	15,957

Gain by immigration, 1889 and 1890 compared.

59. The records of both arrivals and departures show smaller numbers for 1890 than for 1889, the former by 4,805, and the latter by 4,598; the apparent net gain being less than in 1889 by 207, viz., 53 males and 154 females.

Finance account, 1889–90.

60. The following is a statement of the revenue and expenditure of Victoria in the financial year ended on the 30th June 1890; the excess of the latter over the former; the credit balance brought forward from 1888–89, and that carried forward to 1890–91 :—

Finance Account of Victoria, 1889–90.*

(Exclusive of recoups and advances to be recouped.)

	£	s.	d.
Receipts - - -	8,519,158	12	4
Expenditure - - -	9,645,736	13	8
Expenditure in excess of receipts - - -	1,126,578	1	4
Credit balance from 1888–89 -	1,704,846	2	1
Credit balance carried forward to 1890–91 - - -	578,268	0	9

Large credit balance.

61. Although during the financial year under review, the expenditure exceeded the receipts by 1,126,578*l.* the large credit balance brought forward from the previous year, viz., 1,704,846, was sufficient not only to provide for the difference but also to allow of a credit balance of 578,268*l.* being carried forward to 1890–91. The former amount exceeded by close on 1,000,000*l.* the largest credit balance ever previously brought forward at the beginning of any financial year; whilst the latter, although not so large as in the three preceding years, was much larger than in any other previous years, except 1857.

Set off to credit balance, 1889–90.

62. With reference to this credit balance it should be stated that, had it not been that the practice, which had prevailed in 1888–89 and previous years, of charging forward to the next year all expenditure not provided for in the Appropriation Act was

* According to a statement distributed to members of the Legislative Assembly on 28th July 1891 by the Honourable the Treasurer, the revenue of 1890–91 was 8,340,813*l.*, and the expenditure was 9,228,693*l.*, the latter thus exceeding the former by 887,880*l.*, which amount being deducted from the balance at the beginning of the financial year leaves a debit balance of 309,612*l.* to be carried forward.

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changed in 1889–90 by the introduction of supplementary estimates, the credit balance would have been increased, by about 420,000*l.* The supplementary estimates, amounting to 420,828*l.* were passed on the 31st July 1890, and were intended to embrace all the remaining liabilities of the year. It was subsequently found, however, that these were deficient by 153,226*l.*, of which 113,929*l.* was for railway working expenses, which had therefore to be charged to the votes for 1890–91. If this amount be deducted, the credit balance is at once reduced to 425,042*l.*, and if a deduction be also made of the amount of interest on the public debt which had accrued to the 30th of June 1890, viz., 610,998*l.* payable on the 1st July, and 109,669*l.* payable on the 1st October following, or 720,667*l.* in all, the credit balance would be changed into a debit balance of 295,625*l.* It should, however, be pointed out that the system of charging to the year only the interest paid in the year, no allowance being made for interest accrued but not yet payable, has always prevailed in the public accounts of Victoria. In 1888–89, the amount expended in the year, but charged forward to the ensuing year, was 658,936*l.*, and the interest accrued in the year, but not due until the ensuing year, was 654,544*l.*, and in 1887–88 the respective amounts were 507,123*l.* and 603,994*l.*

Net revenue and expenditure.

63. In the following table the receipts and expenditure, exclusive of advances recouped and to be recouped, are given for each of the 16 financial years ended with 1889–90, also the surplus or deficiency of revenue in each year, and the credit or debit balances carried forward from year to year:—

Net Public Revenue and Net Public Expenditure, 1874–75 *to* 1889–90.

Year.	Excluding Advances Recouped and to be Recouped.			
	Public Revenue.	Public Expenditure.	Surplus (+). Deficiency (−).	Balances carried forward. Credit (+). Debit (−).
	£	£	£	£
1874–75 -	4,169,700	4,296,649	− 126,949	+ 120,155
1875–76 -	4,325,156	4,394,066	− 68,910	+ 51,245
1876–77 -	4,513,738	4,336,139	+ 177,599	+ 228,844
1877–78 -	4,485,412	4,536,062	− 50,650	− 178,194
1878–79 -	4,520,277	4,809,724	− 289,447	− 111,253
1879–80 -	4,600,627	4,803,790	− 203,163	− 314,416
1880–81 -	5,115,041	5,100,225	+ 14,816	− 299,600
1881–82 -	5,589,972	5,145,764	+ 444,208	+ 144,608
1882–83 -	5,602,066	5,643,885	− 41,819	+ 102,789
1883–84 -	5,934,578	5,653,293	+ 281,285	+ 384,074
1884–85 -	6,290,361	6,121,564	+ 168,797	+ 552,871
1885–86 -	6,416,406	6,513,540	− 97,134	+ 455,737
1886–87 -	6,733,826	6,561,251	+ 172,575	+ 628,312
1887–88 -	7,607,598	7,287,151	+ 320,447	+ 948,758
1888–89 -	8,675,990	7,919,902	+ 756,088	+ 1,704,846
1889–90 -	8,519,159	9,645,737	− 1,126,578	+ 578,268

Years of highest and lowest surplus and deficiency, &c.

64. It will be noticed that the gross revenue showed a surplus in eight and a deficiency in eight of the years named. On the whole the deficiencies were smaller than the surpluses, as the balance carried forward at the end of the last year exceeded that at the end of the first year of the period by over 458,000*l.* By far the largest surplus of revenue was in 1888–89, when it exceeded by nearly one-third of a million sterling that in 1881–82, which was the next largest. The credit balance carried forwarded at the end of 1888–89 was also much larger than that in 1887–88, which in turn was much larger than in any other year. The largest deficiency of revenue was in 1889–90, when it exceeded by over 830,000*l.* the deficiency in 1878–79 which was the next largest.

Changes in source of revenue.

65. During the year 1889–90, considerable changes were made affecting the revenue derived from taxation. On the one hand, the customs duties on tea, coffee, cocoa, and other articles were either remitted or considerably reduced, at an estimated loss on the financial year of about 75,500*l.*, whilst on the other hand, the duties on a large number of articles were increased at an estimated gain to the revenue of about 156,000*l.*, on the assumption that the importation of the articles affected would not fall off. As a matter of fact, however, the customs revenue collected did fall off by close on 222,000*l.*, owing to a contraction in the general imports, which in 1888–89 were exceptionally large, having been stimulated partly by the Melbourne Centennial International Exhibition held during that year, and partly by the great excitement, which was then at its height, in connexion with land, mining, and other speculations. Moreover, the excise duty on tobacco was reduced, at an estimated loss on the year of about 19,000*l.*, and the rate of tonnage dues on vessels was reduced, at a loss of about 16,000*l.* On the other hand, an unforeseen increase of 163,700*l.*, as compared with 1888–89, occurred in the amount received from duties on estates of deceased persons, a source of income which is naturally subject to fluctuations. As regards other sources of revenue, the railways were extended by an average length of 186 miles during the year; and, in consequence, the revenue derivable therefrom might be expected to increase, allowing 1,000*l.* per mile, by about 186,000*l.* The traffic, however, in the previous year had been exceptionally heavy, owing to the large number of visitors attracted to Melbourne by the Exhibition, and this not being sustained in 1889-90 the railway revenue showed an actual increase of only 29,000*l.* All things considered, it appears there was probably a net gain of 110,500*l.* in the revenue from taxation arising from changes in the taxes alone, and a further gain of 349,700*l.* from the extension of railways and certain accidental circumstances. Thus the total net gain from radical changes in the sources of revenue may be set down as 395,200*l.*

Revenue, 1888–89 and 1889–90 compared.

66. The total revenue raised in 1889–90 was about 156,800*l.* less than that in the previous year; and by making allowance for receipts from sources not common to both years, as shown in

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last paragraph, the falling off is increased to about 552,000*l.*, thus :—

Comparative Revenues, 1888–89 *and* 1889–90.

——	1888–89.	1889–90.
	£	£
Revenue proper (*i.e.*, exclusive of recoups, &c.) - - - - -	8,675,990	8,519,195
Deduct amounts from sources not common to both years - - - -	—	395,200
Comparative amounts - - -	8,675,990	8,123,995

Revenue 1889–90 and previous years.

67. The revenue of 1889–90, although somewhat smaller than in 1888–89, was much larger than that raised in any previous year. The year in which the next largest revenue had previously been realised was 1887–88, when, however, it was about 911,600*l.* less than in the year under review. In the 10 years ended with the year under review the revenue increased from 4,600,000*l.* to 8,500,000*l.*, or by 85 per cent., the population during the same period having increased by only 32 per cent.

Expenditure 1889–90 and former years.

68. The expenditure in 1889–90 was much the largest which ever took place in Victoria. It exceeded that in 1888–89, the year in which the next largest expenditure occurred, by over 1,700,000*l.*, and that in 1887–88, which came next by about 2,350,000*l.* Prior to 1853 the annual expenditure never exceeded one million sterling; from 1853 to 1872–73 it was usually nearly up to or slightly over three millions; from 1873–74 to 1879–80 it was between four and four and three-quarter millions; from 1880–81 to 1883–84 it ranged from five to nearly five and three-quarter millions, and from 1884–85 to 1889–90 it increased from six to over nine and a half millions sterling.

Revenue and expenditure per head in 1889–90 and former years.

69. The revenue per head in 1889–90 was 7*l.* 14*s.* 5*d.*, which was less by 6*s.* 8*d.* than in the previous year, but the expenditure per head was 8*l.* 14*s.* 10*d.*, which was larger by 1*l.* 7*s.* 9*d.* than in the previous year. The former, however, was larger than in any other previous year since 1857, whilst the latter was larger than in any year since 1854. In proportion to population, both revenue and expenditure declined pretty steadily year by year from 1862 to 1872–73, but ever since the latter a gradual increase has taken place, which with slight fluctuations, has been maintained up to the present time.

Heads of revenue, 1888–89 and 1889–90.

70. The various sources from which the revenue of Victoria is derived may be grouped in five main divisions, viz. :—Taxation, Crown Lands, Railways and other Reproductive Public Works, Post and Telegraphs, and other sources. In 1889–90, 3,631,000*l.* or 42½ per cent., was derived from taxation; 580,000*l.*, or 7 per cent., from Crown Lands; 3,926,000*l.*, or 46 per cent., from what may be termed the commercial undertakings of the Government,

viz.:—Railways, Waterworks, and Post and Telegraphs, to which the railways alone contributed as much as 3,134,000*l.*, or 37 per cent. of the total revenue; whilst the balance, amounting to 383,000*l.*, or about 4½ per cent. of the whole, was derived from other sources. Of the land revenue, amounting to 580,000*l.*, by far the greater proportion, or 443,000*l.*, being equal to 5 per cent. of the total revenue, was derived from the sale of public land, which, being a receipt arising from the realisation of one of the most valuable assets of the country, is obviously not a permanent source of income. Portion of this amount is properly treated as capital, for on reference to the statement of expenditure it will be seen that a sum of nearly 88,600*l.* was paid during the year towards the construction of railways as directed by the Land Act, 1884, which provides that all proceeds arising from the sale of public lands by auction shall be paid to the credit of the railway construction account. In the last two years, however, the amount so paid represented barely one-fifth of the total proceeds from land sales, the great bulk of land alienated being disposed of otherwise than at auction. A special receipt in 1889–90, amounting to 140,000*l.*, was derived from the sale of the old police court site, the proceeds of which have not been allowed to merge into the general revenue, but have been set apart for various public works. The following is a statement of the amounts received under different heads in each of those divisions during the last two financial years, together with the increase or decrease under each head:—

Heads of Revenue, 1888–89 *and* 1889–90.

Heads of Revenue.	Amounts received.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1888-89.	1889-90.		
TAXATION.	£	£	£	£
Customs duties (including also wharfage rates)	2,879,830	2,658,010	—	221,820
Excise	146,555	137,332	—	9,223
Ports and harbours (chiefly tonnage dues)	45,884	29,789	—	16,095
Licenses (business)	23,904	21,756	—	2,148
Duties on estates of deceased persons	236,449	400,150	163,701	—
Duties on bank notes	4,023	32,173	—	1,850
Stamp duty	260,000	230,000	—	30,000
Land tax	123,025	121,604	—	1,421
Total	3,749,670	3,630,814	—	118,856
LAND REVENUE.				
Land sales (including rents counting towards purchase money)	494,733	442,583	—	52,150
Rents of Crown lands (not counting towards purchase money)	119,778	136,358	16,580	—
Penalties under Land Acts	1,517	835	—	682
Total	616,028	579,776	—	36,252

Heads of Revenue.	Amounts Received. 1888–89.	Amounts Received. 1889–90.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
PUBLIC WORKS.				
Railways - - - -	3,104,907	3,134,066	9,159	—
Water supply - - - -	245,734	260,227	14,493	—
Other public works - - -	5,805	4,848	—	957
Total - - - -	3,356,446	3,399,141	42,695	—
POST AND TELEGRAPHS.				
Postal receipts, &c. - - -	402,834	353,684	—	49,150
Telegraph receipts, &c. - -	150,043	172,716	22,673	—
Total - - - -	552,877	526,400	—	26,477
OTHER SOURCES.				
Mint charges - - - -	10,051	11,317	1,266	—
„ subsidy returned - - -	3,642	4,478	836	—
Fees, fines, &c. (inclusive of fee stamps) -	174,998	162,807	—	12,191
Interest on public account - - -	107,888	66,700	—	41,188
Rents (other than Crown lands) - -	3,224	4,019	795	—
Reimbursements in aid - - -	67,130	75,220	8,090	—
Miscellaneous receipts - -	34,036	58,487	24,451	—
Total - - - -	400,969	383,028	—	17,941
Total Ordinary Revenue -	8,675,990	8,519,159	—	156,831
Special Receipts - -	—	140,000	140,000	—
Grand Total Receipts - -	8,675,990	8,659,159	—	16,831

Increased revenue, 1889–90, under various heads.

71. Comparing the revenue of 1889–90 with that of the previous year, it will be observed that there was a net decrease of over 156,800*l.* in the total revenue, arising from a falling off of 438,800*l.* under certain heads, less an increase of 282,000*l.* under others. By far the most important decrease was 118,800*l.* under taxation, which would, moreover, have been swelled to 280,000*l.* had it not been for the exceptionally large revenue from duties on estates of deceased persons. There was also a net decrease of 36,000*l.* in the land revenue, of 26,500*l.* in the receipts from posts and telegraphs, and of 18,000*l.* in those from "other sources"; whilst, on the other hand, there was a net increase of 42,700*l.* in the revenue from publicworks. The diminished land revenue resulted chiefly from a decrease of 52,100*l.* under land sales, both by auction and selection, less an increase of 16,600*l.* in the rents from temporary occupation, &c. In the Public Works division, the revenue from waterworks shows a substantial increase of 14,500*l.*; and the railway revenue an increase of 29,159*l.*, which, however, is less by 157,000*l.* than the amount which might have been expected (viz., 186,000*l.*) from the increased length of lines open for traffic; but it has already been pointed out that the traffic in 1888–89 was exceptionally large in consequence of the Melbourne Centennial International Exhibition, held in that year,

The telegraph revenue continues to show remarkable expansion, the increase in 1889-90 being 22,700*l.*, whilst the total increase since 1883–84, just before considerable reductions were made in the rates, was 85,800*l.*, or close on 100 per cent. It should be noted, however, that over 36,000*l.* of this is derived from the telephone exchanges, taken over by the Government in September 1887. The postal receipts show an apparent decrease of 49,000*l.* chiefly in consequence of the rate for inland letters being reduced from 2*d.* to 1*d.*, from the 1st January 1890, at an estimated loss of 96,000*l.* for the first 12 months. In reference to the postal revenue, it should be pointed out that, although carefully estimated in the office of the Government Statist, it may be wide of the mark, the data available being inadequate to show with certainty the progress of this important branch of revenue; and the reductions made from time to time in the postal rates still further increase the difficulty of forming a correct estimate. The total stamp revenue from 1889–90 was 797,894*l.*, but, after deducting the amount received on account of telegrams, which is known, there remains a balance of 662,649*l.* for stamp duty, postage, and fees, as compared with 749,856*l.* in 1888–89. Thus the stamp revenue, exclusive of telegraphs, showed a decrease as compared with that received in the previous year of 87,207*l.*, as against an increase of 82,286*l.* in 1888–89, of 140,792*l.* in 1887–88, of only 1,465*l.* in 1886–87, of 36,931*l.* in 1885-86, and of 43,372*l.* in 1884–85. Of the decrease in 1889–90, about 50,000*l.* was estimated to have been due chiefly to the reduction in the rate of postage just alluded to, against which must be set off an increase of about 1,600*l.* from the parcels post; and, after allowing a reasonable reduction for fees, a balance of 30,000*l.* is set down to stamp duty (taxation). Under "other sources" there was a falling off of 41,000*l.* in the interest received on the public account, and one of 12,000*l.* in fees; but, on the other hand, these amounts were partly counterbalanced by an increase of 24,000*l.*, in miscellaneous receipts and minor increases under other sub-heads.

Heads of expenditure, 1888–89 and 1889–90.

72. Of the total ordinary expenditure of Victoria in 1889–90, 1,363,000*l.*, or 14 per cent., was disbursed to defray the cost of Government, maintenance of law and order, and provision against foreign attacks; 1,029,000*l.*, including 201,000*l.* for buildings, or 11 per cent., was contributed towards public instruction and the advancement and dissemination of knowledge; 316,000*l.*, or nearly 3⅓ per cent., was expended on public charities or devoted to the preservation of the public health; 97,000*l.*, or nearly 1 per cent., was expended on the management and survey of the Crown lands, about 39,000*l.* less than the gross annual rental therefrom during the same financial year; as much as 4,720,000*l.*, or 49 per cent., was absorbed in working out the various commercial undertakings of the Government, viz., 2,580,000*l.* on railways and waterworks, besides 1,431,000*l.* in interest upon loans raised for their construction, and 709,000*l.* on post and telegraphs; 118,000*l.* was paid as interest on amounts borrowed for the construction of other public works; 89,000*l.* was the cost of collecting the revenue

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from Customs duties and Excise, whilst 35,000*l.* was spent on the maintenance of ports and harbours; and nearly 386,000*l.*, or 4 per cent., was granted in aid of the agricultural and mining industries. The amounts just enumerated, together with 94,000*l.* expended on miscellaneous services, form the ordinary annual expenditure for the year; but besides this an amount of 1,123,000*l.*, or 12 per cent. of the total expenditure, was spent on productive and unproductive public works of a permanent character, viz., 89,000*l.* on railways, and 1,034,000*l.* on "miscellaneous public works," which embraces the cost of erection and of maintenance of public offices and buildings of all kinds, expenditure on roads and bridges, and municipal subsidies (450,000*l.*). These amounts might be considered as a set-off against the proceeds of land sales before referred to, which they even exceeded by 680,000*l.* In 1889–90 also there were certain items of special expenditure, amounting to 190,779*l.* for the erection of certain public buildings and the improvement of Crown lands, to be recouped from the proceeds of the sale of the old police court site, of lunatic asylum grounds, and of reclaimed lands. The following is a classification of the expenditure under 10 divisions and 27 subsidiary heads, during the years 1888–89 and 1889–90, also the increase or decrease in the latter year:—

Heads of Expenditure, 1888–89 *and* 1889–90.

Heads of Expenditure.	Amounts Expended.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1888–89.	1889–90.		
GENERAL GOVERNMENT.	£	£	£	£
Civil list*	40,564	40,915	351	—
Legislature	73,216	74,282	1,066	—
Civil establishment†	146,617	166,471	19,854	—
Retiring allowances and pensions	96,610	108,842	12,232	—
Gratuities, compensations, &c.	53,916	41,701	—	12,215
Total	410,923	432,211	21,288‡	—
LAW, ORDER, AND PROTECTION.				
Judicial and legal	217,180	243,856	26,676	—
Police	261,329	265,149	3,820	—
Gaols and penal establishments	66,163	71,146	4,983	—
Defences—Naval and Military	346,623	350,823	4,200	—
Total	891,295	930,974	39,679	—

* Including Governor's salary and salaries of Ministers, Commissioners of Audit, Agent General, expenses of Executive Council and Public Service Board.

† Including cost of the following departments:—Chief Secretary, Shorthand Writer, Agent General's Office, Audit Office, Registrar of Friendly Societies, Treasury, Stores and Transport, and Government Printer.

‡ Net figures.

Heads of Expenditure.	Amounts Expended. 1888-89.	Amounts Expended. 1888-90.	Increase.	Decrease.
EDUCATION, SCIENCE, CHARITY, &c.	£	£	£	£
Public instruction, science, &c.	774,449	828,074	53,625	—
State School buildings	—	201,140	201,140	—
Charitable institutions, medical, &c.	283,986	316,140	32,154	—
Total	1,058,435	1,345,354	286,919	—
CROWN LANDS.				
Administration and survey	100,573	97,249	—	3,324
Agriculture, &c.	73,229	98,445	25,216	—
Mining	119,139	137,291	18,152	—
Total	292,941	332,985	40,044	—
PUBLIC WORKS.				
Railways—Working expenses	1,803,124	2,511,106	707,982	—
„ Construction account	120,873	88,588	—	32,285
Water supply	71,989	68,850	—	3,139
Other public works	808,803	1,034,381	225,578	—
Total	2,804,789	3,702,925	898,136	—
Post and telegraphs	619,070	709,328	90,258	—
PUBLIC DEBT.				
Interest and expenses—Railways	1,126,765	1,203,375	76,610	—
„ „ Water supply	216,195	227,180	10,985	—
„ „ Other works	116,282	117,590	1,308	—
Total interest, &c.	1,459,242	1,548,145	88,903	—
Redemption of loans	—	276,100	276,100	—
TRADE, NAVIGATION, &c.				
Customs	87,412	88,966	1,554	—
Harbours and lights	34,595	35,166	571	—
Total	122,007	124,132	2,125	—
OTHER EXPENDITURE.				
Mint subsidy	20,000	20,000	—	—
Aborigines	10,949	9,761	—	1,188
Miscellaneous services	230,251	213,822	—	16,42
Total	261,200	243,583	—	17,617
Total ordinary expenditure	7,919,902	9,645,737	1,725,835	—
Special expenditure	39,424	190,779	151,355	—
Total expenditure—ordinary and special	7,959,326	9,836,516	1,877,190	—

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Chief items of increased expenditure, 1889–90.

73. It will be observed that an increase appears in the expenditure under all the heads but five, the net increase amounting to about 1,726,000*l.* The most prominent increases were 708,000*l.* in the working expenses of railways, 225,600*l.* under miscellaneous public works—which includes 109,146*l.* increased municipal subsidy, 37,700*l.* on the purchase of land and erection of buildings for postal purposes; 33,700*l.* on wharves, jetties, lighthouses, &c.; 19,200*l.* on roads and bridges; 90,300*l.* under post and telegraphs; 88,900*l.* under interest on the public debt; 53,600*l.* under public instruction; 32,200*l.* under charitable institutions, &c., 26,700*l.* under judicial and legal; 25,200*l.* under agriculture; 18,200*l.* under mining, chiefly in search of coal and working of diamond drills; and 19,900*l.* under civil establishment, of which 14,500*l.* was in the department of the Government Printer, and 3,600*l.* in the new department of the Marine Board. Moreover, the following items, which did not appear in the accounts of the previous year, being usually provided for out of loans, appear in the expenditure in 1889–90, being paid from revenue in consequence of the prosperous condition of the finances, viz.:—State school buildings, 201,140*l.*; redemption of loans, 276,100*l.* On the other hand, there was a large decrease of 32,300*l.* in the payment to the railway construction account, consequent on the falling off in land sales; and of 16,400*l.* in "Miscellaneous Services," resulting chiefly from a new item of 150,000*l.* for advances to shires (to be recouped) appearing only in the accounts for 1889–90, and an item of 184,700*l.* on account of the late Exhibition appearing only in those for 1888–89. The increase of 53,600*l.* under public instruction was partly due to the increased cost of State education (46,000*l.*), and partly to additional endowments and grants to educational institutions generally. It has already been stated that nearly half the total expenditure is in connexion with the working of the railways, waterworks, and post and telegraphs. The most important of these is, of course, the railways, and a comparison of the railway finances of 1889-90 with those of the previous year shows, that whilst the actual working expenses increased by 186,400*l.*, the revenue increased by only 29,200*l.* Owing to the constantly increasing amount borrowed for railway construction, the interest paid thereon increased during the year referred to by about 76,600*l.* The next most important commercial undertakings are the postal and telegraph services, which it has been the policy of the Government to work, although at an immediate loss; thus, whilst the expenditure in 1889–90 on these services was 709,000*l.*, it is estimated that the revenue was only a little over 526,000*l.*, and thus the deficiency in that year amounted to about 183,000*l.* as against only 66,000*l.* in the previous year; if, however, allowance were made for official correspondence, transmitted free of cost (say 70,000*l.*), and the interest (63,800*l.*) paid on savings banks deposits, from which the postal revenue does not derive any benefit, the deficit for 1889–90 would be reduced to about 50,000*l.* In former years the deficit usually averaged about 100,000*l.* The

comparatively large deficit in 1889–90 was due not so much to the loss of revenue occasioned by the introduction of the penny post on the 1st January 1890, already referred to, as to the increased cost of post and telegraph services generally. Thus, the net loss in the postal and telegraph revenue, as already shown, was only 26,500*l.*, but, on the other hand, the cost of the departmental staff increased by 54,800*l.*, although only about 4,500*l.* of this (in the first six months) was for additional staff required in connexion with the reduced postal rate; the cost of inland mails increased by 13,000*l.*; expenditure on telegraphs by 13,000*l.*; and interest on savings banks deposits by 6,700*l.* The increase under the head of charitable institutions arose from an increased vote of 10,000*l.* for grants in aid, 9,000*l.* additional cost of hospitals for the insane, and 9,500*l.* for the new inebriate asylum. The increased amounts under the head of agriculture are, agricultural societies 3,000*l.*, State forests 4,000*l.*, rabbit extermination (besides 150,000*l.* lent to shires for erection of wire fencing) 8,000*l.*, vine diseases eradication 6,000*l.*, bonuses 4,000*l.*

Expenditure from loans.

74. In addition to the ordinary expenditure from revenue, large sums are annually disbursed for various purposes from amounts raised by means of loans. The following table shows the details of such expenditure prior to 1884–85 and during each subsequent year. This is intended to supplement the table of ordinary expenditure by exhibiting those items which having never been, or having ceased to be, a charge on the general revenue, are treated in separate accounts :—

Expenditure of Net Proceeds of Loans to 30th June 1890.

Purposes of Expenditure.	Amounts Expended.							
	Prior to 1884–85.	1884–85.	1885–86.	1886–87.	1887–88.	1888–89.	1889–90.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Railways - -	19,861,253	901,577	1,408,662	1,711,160	1,774,721	3,083,211	2,933,087	31,673,671
Water supply -	4,040,559	172,465	235,485	373,994	462,562	484,068	796,271	6,565,404
Law courts and Parliament Houses -	436,266	568	12,153	32,770	44,954	37,563	15,270	579,544
Public offices -	162,280	—	—	—	—	—	—	162,280
Defences - -	98,299	—	—	—	—	—	—	98,299
State school buildings - - -	898,500	69,995	45,438	49,284	54,308	59,970	—	1,177,495
Yarra bridge - -	10,182	3,663	14,205	42,561	32,627	18,207	—	121,445
Alfred graving dock	341,819	—	—	—	—	—	—	341,819
Harbour works, &c.	14,106	46,077	20,976	47,856	53,344	54,279	9,377	246,015
Total - -	25,863,264	1,194,345	1,736,919	2,257,625	2,422,516	3,737,298	3,754,005	40,965,972

Heads of revenue in Australasian colonies.

75. The following is a comparative statement of the amounts received, under various heads of revenue, in the respective Australasian Colonies during the most recent year for which the

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particulars are available. The figures have all been derived from official sources :—

Heads of Revenue in Australasian Colonies, 1889.

Heads of Revenue.	Victoria, 1889-90.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
	Numbers.						
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Taxation :— Customs, &c. -	2,658,010	1,905,883	1,344,472	529,433	171,990	307,352	1,473,379
Other taxes* -	972,804	771,286	230,135	181,815	22,258	115,292	612,702
Total - -	3,630,814	2,677,169	1,574,607	711,248	194,248	422,644	2,086,081
Crown lands -	579,776	2,137,563	648,788	174,246	87,016	70,891	319,809
Railways - -	3,134,066	2,596,375	799,779	910,561	41,151	75,922	1,018,211
Post and telegraphs	526,400	597,988	220,171	208,118	24,455	55,874	322,083
Other sources -	684,103	1,054,302	196,904	266,260	35,343	53,578	245,735
Total - -	8,519,159	9,063,397	3,440,249	2,270,433	382,213	678,909	3,991,919
	Proportions per cent.						
Taxation :— Customs, &c. -	31·20	21·03	39·08	23·32	45·00	45·27	36·91
Other taxes -	11·42	8·51	6·69	8·01	5·82	16·98	15·35
Total - -	42·62	29·54	45·77	31·33	50·82	62·25	52·26
Crown lands -	6·81	23·58	18·86	7·67	22·76	10·44	8·01
Railways - -	36·79	28·65	23·25	40·10	10·77	11·19	25·51
Post and telegraphs	6·18	6·60	6·40	9·17	6·40	8·23	8·07
Other sources -	7·60	11·63	5·72	11·73	9·25	7·89	6·15
Total - -	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00

NOTE.—The figures of revenue and expenditure for Victoria are for the 12 months ended 30th June 1890, but those for the other Colonies are for the calendar year 1889. Refunds of revenue, drawbacks, and such similar entries, are rigidly excluded from the accounts of revenue and expenditure of Victoria and New Zealand, but are included in those of New South Wales and Queensland; also, it is believed, in those of some of the other Colonies.

Proportion of revenue from different sources.

76. It will be observed that the proportion of revenue raised by taxation, chiefly derived from customs duties, varied from about 30 per cent. in New South Wales and South Australia, to 62 per cent. in Tasmania. The revenue from railways also formed a very large proportion of the total revenue of all the Colonies, varying

* The amounts in this line are made up of excise duties, including licenses imposed for revenue purposes; duties on bank notes; stamps, other than those for post and telegraphs and fees of office; legacy, succession, and probate duties; property and income taxes; and any other impost, payable to the General Government, levied distinctly as a tax; but excluding fees, licenses, and charges for special services rendered.

from about a ninth in Western Australia and Tasmania, to more than a third of the whole in Victoria and South Australia. The Crown lands revenue varied in the different Colonies from 7 to 24 per cent. of the whole, the former proportion prevailing in Victoria, and the latter in New South Wales; and that from post and telegraphs from 6 to 9 per cent.

Heads of revenue in Victoria and New South Wales compared.

77. It will be remarked that the land revenue was nearly four times as large in New South Wales as in Victoria, which item alone much more than accounts for the larger total revenue of the former Colony. Indeed, if the land revenue be deducted from the total revenues of the two Colonies, the revenue of Victoria, notwithstanding certain cross entries in the New South Wales returns, would exceed the revenue of that Colony by 1,013,000*l.*, the respective amounts for 1889 being 7,939,000*l.* and 6,926,000*l.* It also appears that the railway revenue of Victoria exceeded that of New South Wales by about 540,000*l.*; in the former Colony it forms more than one-third, and in New South Wales more than one-fourth, of the total revenue. The total taxation of Victoria was greater than that of New South Wales by one million sterling, three-fourths of the excess appearing under the head of customs. Under other heads, the revenue in New South Wales from post and telegraphs exceeded that in Victoria by 70,000*l.*, and that from "other sources" by over 400,000*l.*

Land revenue in Australasian Colonies.

78. In 1889 the aggregate land revenue of the Australasian Colonies exceeded 4,000,000*l.* The following table shows the receipts from the sale and occupation of Crown lands and their proportion to the total revenue in each Australasian Colony during 1889. The Colonies are arranged in order according to that proportion:—

Land Revenue in Australasian Colonies, 1889.

Colony.	Revenue derived from Crown Lands for—			Proportion of Land Revenue to Total Revenue.
	Alienation in Fee-simple and Progressive Alienation.	Temporary occupation and miscellaneous.	Total.	
	£	£	£	Per cent.
New South Wales -	1,149,171	988,392	2,137,563	23·58
Western Australia -	9,518	77,498	87,016	22·76
Queensland - -	277,000	371,788	648,788	18·86
Tasmania - -	49,166	21,725	70,891	10·44
New Zealand - -	91,627	228,182	319,809	8·01
South Australia - -	53,570	120,676	174,246	7·67
Victoria (1889–90) -	443,418	136,358	579,776	6·81
Total - -	2,073,470	1,944,619	4,018,089	14·18

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Prospective diminution of land revenues in Colonies.

79. It will be noticed that about a seventh of the aggregate revenues of the Australasian Colonies in 1889 was derived from Crown lands, and that the proportion amounted to less than a twelfth in Victoria, South Australia, and New Zealand; about a tenth in Tasmania; about a fifth in Queensland and Western Australia; and nearly a fourth in New South Wales. It will also be remarked that in the Colonies, as a whole, more than half the land revenue was derived from alienation in fee simple.

Land revenue in Australasia, 1878–89.

80. In 1889, as compared with 1888, an increase of 10,300*l.* occurred in the land revenue of Queensland, of 22,000*l.* in that of New Zealand, and of 5,700*l.* in that of Western Australia; whilst, on the other hand, there was a decrease of 145,300*l.* in that of South Australia, of 130,700*l.* in that of New South Wales, of 36,200*l.* in that of Victoria, and of 6,000*l.* in that of Tasmania. Taking the Colonies as a whole, there was a net decrease in 1889 of 280,200*l.* Considerable fluctuations have taken place in the land revenue during the 12 years ended with 1889, as shown in following table, from which it will be seen that the amount received was smaller in 1889 than in 1888 or 1887, but larger than in any other previous years named, except 1878, 1881, 1882, and 1883 :—

Land Revenue of Australasian Colonies, 1878 *to* 1889.

Year.	Land Revenue.	
	Total Amount.	Proportion of Total Revenue.
	£	
1878 - - - -	5,814,388	33·00
1879 - - - -	3,565,349	22·33
1880 - - - -	3,802,143	17·50
1881 - - - -	5,744,306	27·00
1882 - - - -	5,458,963	25·00
1883 - - - -	4,042,722	18·75
1884 - - - -	4,001,028	17·50
1885 - - - -	3,879,236	16·19
1886 - - - -	3,560,297	14·98
1887 - - - -	4,235,307	16·49
1888 - - - -	4,298,326	15·02
1889 - - - -	4,018,089	14·18

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Taxation.

81. The amounts whereof revenue is made up may be divided into two classes, viz., those raised by taxation and those raised otherwise. In Victoria the former class consists of customs and excise duties, wharfage rates, port and harbour dues, business licenses, duties on bank notes, duties on estates of deceased persons, a land tax, and stamp duties. The latter class comprises amounts derived from the sale or occupation of Crown lands, from railways, from water supply, from post and telegraph offices from the mint, from fees, fines, and forfeitures, from the interest on the public account, from the labour of prisoners, &c. The following figures show the result of a division of the Victorian revenue upon this principle:—

Taxation, 1889–90.

	£
Revenue raised by taxation - -	3,630,814
„ „ otherwise - -	4,888,345
Total - - -	8,519,159

Taxation per head.

82. In 1889–90 nearly 43 per cent. of the total revenue was raised by taxation, and if the amount so raised be divided by the estimated mean population of the financial year, already stated to have been 1,103,727*l.*, an average will be obtained of 3*l.* 5*s.* 10*d.* to each individual.

Public debt.

83. The public debt of Victoria amounted on the 30th June 1890* to 41,377,693*l.*, consisting of moneys:—

	£
Borrowed in Victoria - -	1,308,993
„ England - -	40,068,700
Total - -	41,377,693

Purposes for which loans were incurred.

84. The aggregate amount of the loans raised up to the 30th June 1890 was 51,971,313*l.*; but a total of 10,593,620*l.* having been repaid, viz., 2,379,200*l.* out of the general revenue, and 8,214,420*l.* out of the proceeds of redemption loans, the balance outstanding on the 30th June 1890 was reduced to 41,377,693*l.* The amount of public debt borrowed under each of the purposes for which the debt was incurred, the amount paid off, and the

* On the 30th June 1891 the public debt amounted to 43,610,265*l.* (including one million floated on the 7th July).

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amount outstanding on the 30th June 1890 are shown in the following table:—

Purposes for which Loans were Raised.

Purposes.	Total Amount Borrowed.	Amount Paid	Amount Outstanding on 30th June 1890.
	£	£	£
Railways	32,317,719	344,200	31,973,519
Water supply—			
Melbourne	2,922,866	800,000	2,122,866
Country	4,392,173	—	4,392,173
Parliament houses	246,453	—	246,453
Law courts	354,260	—	354,260
Public offices	166,195	—	166,195
Defences	100,000	—	100,000
State schools	1,105,557	—	1,105,557
Yarra Bridge	108,043	—	108,043
Harbours, &c.	275,554	—	275,554
Graving-dock	350,464	—	350,464
Tramways in country districts	182,609	—	182,609
Melbourne and Geelong improvements	735,000	735,000	—
Treasury bonds	500,000	500,000	—
	43,756,893	2,379,200	41,377,693
Redemption of loans	8,214,420	8,214,420	—
Total	51,971,313	10,593,620	41,377,693

Rates of interest.

85. About a sixth of the public debt bears interest at 3½ per cent., whilst nearly two-thirds bears interest at 4 per cent., and the balance at higher rates up to 6 per cent. The following are the rates of interest payable on the various amounts of which the public debt of Victoria was composed on the 30th June 1890:—

Rates of Interest.	Amount at each Rate.
	£
6 per cent.	850,000
5 per cent.	2,603,800
4½ per cent.	5,000,000
4 per cent.	25,923,893
3½ per cent.	7,000,000
Total	41,377,693

Interest and expenses of debt, 1860 to 1889-90.

86 The following is a statement of the total amount, and amount per head, paid as interest and expenses of the public debt in 1860, in each fifth year from that period to 1889–90; also, in

each of the same years, the proportion of the total amount to the revenue of Victoria:— VICTORIA.

Interest and Expenses of Public Debt, 1860 to 1889–90.

Year.	Interest and Expenses of Debt.		
	Total Amount.	Amount per Head of Population.	Percentage of Revenue.
	£	£ s. d.	
1860 - -	251,777	0 9 4	8·17
1865 - -	517,081	0 16 8	16·81
1870 - -	647,674	0 17 10	19·86
1874–75 - -	719,282	0 18 3	17·25
1879–80 - -	979,864	1 3 1	21·30
1884–85 - -	1,271,907	1 6 11	20·22
1889–90 - -	1,548,145	1 8 1	18·17

87. In the other Australasian Colonies, in 1889, the interest and expenses of the public debt per head varied from 2*l.* 13*s.* 5*d.* in Queensland and 2*l.* 12*s.* 8*d.* in New Zealand, to 2*l.* 7*s.* in South Australia, 1*l.* 12*s.* 9*d.* in New South Wales, 1*l.* 11*s.* 8*d.* in Western Australia, and 1*l.* 8*s.* 2*d.* in Tasmania, whilst the proportion to the total expenditure varied from 41 per cent. in New Zealand, 32 per cent. in South Australia, 31 per cent. in Tasmania, and 29 per cent. in Queensland to 19½ per cent. in New South Wales, and nearly 18 per cent. in Western Australia. In the Australasian Colonies as a whole the interest and expenses of the public debt in 1889 amounted to 6,974,272*l.*, or to nearly 1*l.* 17*s.* 7*d.* per head, and to nearly a fourth of the expenditure. Interest on debt in Australasian Colonies and elsewhere.

88. The following table shows the total amounts of debt, and the indebtedness per head, in Victoria and the other Australasian Colonies on the 31st December 1889, also the number of years revenue the debt was equal to in that year:— Debts of Australasian Colonies.

Public Debts of the Australasian Colonies.

Colony.	On the 31st December 1889.		
	Total Amount of Debt.	Amount of Indebtedness per Head.	Number of Years' Revenue Debt is equal to.
	£	s. d.	
Victoria - - - -	37,367,027	17 1	4·31
New South Wales - - -	46,646,449	4 11 4	5·15
Queensland - - -	25,840,950	65 10 11	7·51
South Australia - - -	20,435,500	62 19 7	9·00
Western Australia - - -	1,371,981	31 7 11	3·59
Tasmania - - - -	5,019,050	33 2 8	7·39
New Zealand - - - -	38,483,250	62 0 10	9·64

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Public debt of Australia and Australasia.

89. If the amounts of debt shown in the table be added together it will be found that at the end of 1889 the aggregate debt of the Colonies on the continent of Australia was 131⅔ millions and the aggregate debt of Australia with the addition of Tasmania and New Zealand exceeded 175 millions sterling. The following are the exact figures, also the proportion of indebtedness per head of the population, and the proportion the aggregate debt bore to the aggregate revenue of the Colonies within the same limits :—

Public Debt of Australia and Australasia, 1889.

—	Public Debt.		
	Total Amount.	Amount per Head.	Multiple of Revenue.
	£	£ s. d.	Per cent.
Continent of Australia - - -	131,661,907	43 13 4	5·52
Ditto with Tasmania and New Zealand - - - - -	175,164,207	46 5 1	6·15

Purposes for which debts of Australasian Colonies were contracted.

90. The major portion of the public debt of each of the Australasian Colonies was contracted for the purpose of railway construction, but smaller amounts were borrowed for water supply, immigration, electric telegraphs, harbour and defence works, roads and bridges, school-houses, and other public works. Up to the end of 1889, New South Wales had borrowed a larger amount for railway construction than any other Colony, the amount being nearly 31,400,000*l.* as against 29,000,000*l.* borrowed for the same purpose by Victoria, nearly 15,400,000*l.* by Queensland, not quite 14,000,000*l.* by New Zealand, and nearly 11,400,000*l.* by South Australia. Victoria has borrowed more for water supply than any other Colony, the total amount being 5,600,000*l.*, as against 4,100,000*l.* borrowed by New South Wales, and 3,300,000*l.* borrowed by South Australia, for the same object. No portion of the public debt of Victoria, South Australia, or Western Australia has been contracted for the promotion of immigration, bnt up to the end of 1889 Queensland and New Zealand had borrowed over two and a half and over two millions respectively for immigration purposes, whilst New South Wales and Tasmania had borrowed considerably smaller sums.

Order of Colonies in repect to

91. Ninety-four per cent. of the Victorian public debt was incurred for the purpose of being expended upon revenue-producing public works, which is a larger proportion than in any

of the other Colonies. This is shown by the following figures, which give the proportion so incurred in each Colony:— Victoria.

borrowings for reproductive works.

Order of Colonies in reference to Proportion of Debt incurred for reproductive Works.

	per cent.
1. Victoria - - - -	94·43
2. New South Wales - - -	83·40
3. South Australia - - -	82·86
4. Western Australia - - -	75·68
5. Tasmania - - - -	72·73
6. Queensland - - - -	69·95
7. New Zealand - - - -	41·46

92. The total indebtedness of Great Britain and her dependencies reaches to about 1,166 millions sterling; 690 millions, or nearly three fifths, of this amount is owing by Great Britain herself; 206½ millions by India; 175 millions, or one-seventh of the whole, by the Australasian Colonies; and the remainder, 94½ millions, by Canada, the Cape of Good Hope, and other British Colonies. Indebtedness of British dominions.

93. In Australasia, taken as a whole, the indebtedness, in proportion to population, is more than two and a half times as large as that of the United Kingdom, which in this respect is far above any of its other dependencies. As regards individual Colonies, the indebtedness per head of Queensland is more than, and that of New Zealand or South Australia is nearly three and a half times as large as, the indebtedness per head of the United Kingdom, whilst that of New South Wales is more than, and that of Victoria is nearly, twice as large. The three first-named Colonies are, in proportion to population, by far the most heavily indebted countries in the world. It may be observed that the indebtedness per head of Canada is only a fourth of that of Australasia. Indebtedness per head of British dominions.

94. In proportion to revenue, the debt of the United Kingdom is much larger than that of any of her dependencies; but with the exception of the United Kingdom and Canada, there is no portion of the British dominions in which the debt is so high a multiple of its revenue as the united debts of the Australasian Colonies are of their united revenues. Proportion of debts to revenues of British dominions.

95. The public debt of the United Kingdom is larger than that of any other country in the world except France, which is the larger by 575,000,000*l*. Next to these countries in point of indebtedness are Austria, Hungary, Russia, Italy, Germany, the United States, Turkey, Spain, and British India, in the order named. These are the only countries which have larger debts than the present united debts of the Australasian Colonies. Gross amount of debt in different countries.

96. In proportion to population the most heavily indebted independent countries are France and Portugal, which are, however, in this respect, far behind all the Australasian Colonies. The debt per head in the United Kingdom is much smaller than in Portugal and France, is also less than in Holland, but is larger than in any other country outside Australasia. Amount of debt per head in different countries.

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Proportion of debt to revenue in different countries.

97. Turkey is, with the exception of Peru, which appears to be irredeemably involved, very much more heavily indebted in proportion to its revenue than any other country. The debts of those countries, and of Portugal, France, Egypt, Greece, Holland, and Austria-Hungary, are all larger in proportion to their revenues than the debt of the United Kingdom is to its revenue. The united debts of the Australasian Colonies are smaller in proportion to their united revenues than the debts of Canada, Spain, Italy, Roumania, Brazil, Tunis, Belgium, or Russia, as well as those of the countries previously so mentioned are to their respective revenues.

Objects of Australasian and other debts.

98. In comparing the indebtedness of the Australasian Colonies with that of other countries, it cannot be too distinctly borne in mind that whereas the latter was mainly incurred for war purposes, the former was, as already pointed out, almost entirely contracted for the construction of railways, water supply, and other works which aid materially in the opening up and development of the country.

Marriages, 1890.

99. The marriages returned to the Registrar-General in 1890 numbered 9,187, as against 9,194 in the previous year. There was thus an excess of seven in favour of 1889.

Marriages, 1890 and former years.

100. The marriages returned in 1889 and 1890 were more numerous than those in any previous year. The number returned annually had been almost stationary during the seven years prior to 1880, but in that year an advance was made which has been more than sustained since. In 1882, for the first time, the marriages returned exceeded 6,000; in 1884, they exceeded 7,000; in 1888, they nearly realised 9,000; in 1889 and 1890, they exceeded that number by nearly 200.

Marriage rate.

101. The proportion which the number of marriages bears to the total population is generally called the marriage rate. This for many years was declining in Victoria, for, whilst in the three years prior to 1863 it was above 8 per 1,000 of both sexes, and all ages; from 1863 to 1865 it was between 7 and 8, and between 1868 and 1878 it was between 6 and 7 per 1,000. It reached its lowest point, viz., 5·98 per 1,000, in 1879; then gradually revived, until in 1888 it reached the maximum of the last 31 years, viz., 8·5 per 1,000. Since 1888 it has slightly declined, and in 1890 it was at the rate of 8·21 per 1,000, which was still higher than in any other year since 1859, except 1889, 1888, 1862, and 1861.

Births, 1890.

102. The births registered in Victoria during 1890 numbered 37,578, as against 36,359 in 1889. The increase in the year under review, as compared with the previous one, was thus 1,219.

Births, 1890 and former years.

103. During the 20 years ended with 1883, the number of births in Victoria had remained almost stationary; but in 1884 a marked increase took place, which has continued during the six subsequent years, the number of births in 1890 being the highest ever recorded.

Birth rate.

104. In proportion to population, the births decreased steadily for a number of years. The lowest point was reached in 1882, since which year there has been a gradual improvement, the birth rate in 1890 having been 33·6 per 1,000 persons living, which was higher than it had been in any year since 1876.

Deaths, 1890.

105. The deaths registered in 1890 numbered 18,012, as against 19,392, in 1889. The decrease in the year under notice was thus 1,380, or 7 per cent.

Deaths, 1890 and former years.

106. In 1889 for the first time, the deaths exceeded 19,000, and although the deaths in 1890 did not reach that number, they were more numerous than those in any other previous year. In 1887 and 1888 they did not much exceed 16,000, in 1886 they numbered less than 15,000, but in only one prior year, viz., 1875, did they reach that number. The high mortality in the last-named year, in which 15,287 deaths were recorded, was due to the prevalence of measles and scarlatina in an epidemic form.

Excess of births over deaths.

107. The births in 1890 exceeded the deaths by 19,566 or 109 per cent., the corresponding proportion being 88 per cent. in the previous year. The proportion in 1890 was exceeded in all but 10 of the previous 24 years. In the 10 years ended with 1890, the proportion averaged 107 per cent., and in the 10 years ended with 1880, it averaged 119 per cent.; whilst during the whole period of 25 years ended with 1890, the average was 117 per cent. The following were the births and deaths in each of those 25 years, and the excess of the former over the latter:—

Excess of Births over Deaths, 1866 *to* 1890.

Year.	Births.	Deaths.	Excess of Births over Deaths.	
			Numerical.	Centesimal.
				Per cent.
1866 - -	25,010	12,286	12,724	104
1867 - -	25,608	11,733	13,875	118
1868 - -	27,243	10,067	17,176	171
1869 - -	26,040	10,630	15,410	145
1870 - -	27,151	10,420	16,731	161
1871 - -	27,382	9,918	17,464	176
1872 - -	27,361	10,831	16,530	153
1873 - -	28,100	11,501	16,599	144
1874 - -	26,800	12,222	14,578	119
1875 - -	26,720	15,287	11,433	75
1876 - -	26,769	13,561	13,208	97
1877 - -	26,010	12,776	13,234	104
1878 - -	26,581	12,702	13,879	109
1879 - -	26,839	12,120	14,719	121
1880 - -	26,148	11,652	14,496	124
1881 - -	27,145	12,302	14,843	121
1882 - -	26,747	13,634	13,113	96
1883 - -	27,541	13,006	14,535	112
1884 - -	28,850	13,505	15,345	114
1885 - -	29,975	14,364	15,611	109
1886 - -	30,824	14,952	15,872	106
1887 - -	33,043	16,005	17,038	106
1888 - -	34,503	16,287	18,216	112
1889 - -	36,359	19,392	16,967	88
1890 - -	37,578	18,012	19,566	109
Total in 25 years	712,327	329,165	383,162	117

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Years in which births doubled deaths.

108. It will be noticed that the births more than doubled the deaths in all the years except 1875, 1876, 1882, and 1889.

Natural increase of population.

109. During the 10 years 1881–90, the population of Victoria increased at the average rate of 1·66 per cent. by excess of births over deaths, at which rate, irrespective of immigration, the population would double itself in 42 years. The rates varied from a minimum of 1·49 in 1882 to a maximum of 1·77 in 1890, as will be seen by the following figures:—

Increase of Population by Excess of Births over Deaths, 1881 *to* 1890.

	Per cent.
1881	1·73
1882	1·49
1883	1·62
1884	1·67
1885	1·65
1886	1·64
1887	1·70
1888	1·76
1889	1·58
1890	1·77
Mean	1·66

Deaths of males and females.

110. In Victoria, deaths of males in 1890 numbered 10,369, and deaths of females, 7,643. These numbers furnish a proportion of nearly 75 females to every 100 males, as against a proportion of 74 females to every 100 males in the 10 years 1881–90, and of 75 to every 100 in the 10 years 1871–80. Females in the total population were in the proportion of 90 to every 100 males, during 1890 and the last decennial period, and 87½ during the preceding decennium; therefore at each period more males and fewer females died than their relative numbers in the population might have given reason to expect.

Death rate.

111. In 1890 males died in the proportion of 17·6, and females in the proportion of 14·4 per 1,000 of their respective numbers living. Taking the two sexes together, the proportion of deaths was 16·1 per 1,000 persons living.

112. The following are the results of meteorological observations taken at Melbourne during each of the 27 years ended with 1890:—

Meteorological Observations at Melbourne—Return for Twenty-seven Years.

(Observatory 91·3 feet above the Sea-level.)

Year.	Temperature in the Shade.			Mean Atmospheric Pressure.	Days on which Rain fell.	Amount of Rainfall.	Mean Relative Humidity.	Mean Amount of Cloud.
	Max.	Min.	Mean.					
	°	°	°	Inches.	No.	Inches.	0–1.	0–10.
1864 -	96·6	30·5	57·1	29·94	144	27·40	·72	6·1
1865 -	103·4	30·9	56·5	29·94	119	15·94	·68	5·6
1866 -	108·2	28·0	57·8	29·95	107	22·41	·70	5·5
1867 -	108·4	29·7	57·7	29·92	133	25·79	·72	5·7
1868 -	110·0	27·4	57·1	29·98	120	18·27	·70	5·7
1869 -	108·4	27·0	57·2	29·94	129	24·59	·71	6·0
1870 -	109·0	29·6	57·4	29·93	129	33·76	·74	5·8
1871 -	106·0	32·1	57·7	29·93	125	30·17	·74	5·9
1872 -	103·3	32·5	57·6	29·92	136	32·52	.74	6·4
1873 -	102·4	30·2	58·0	29·94	134	25·61	·72	6·0
1874 -	102·7	29·3	56·6	29·93	134	28·10	·72	6·1
1875 -	110·4	31·1	56·6	29·89	158	32·87	·72	6·2
1876 -	110·7	29·0	57·0	29·93	134	24·04	·70	5·8
1877 -	100·7	31·0	56·7	29·99	124	24·10	·70	5·8
1878 -	103·4	31·1	57·4	29·90	116	25·36	·71	6·0
1879 -	106·0	30·5	56·8	29·92	127	19·28	·71	5·8
1880 -	106·5	29·0	57·8	29·92	147	28·48	·72	6·0
1881 -	99·9	31·9	57·1	29·97	134	24·08	·68	5·9
1882 -	110·5	31·5	57·4	29·90	131	22·39	·68	5·6
1883 -	104·9	31·7	58·0	29·92	130	23·71	·69	5·9
1884 -	100·7	29·9	56·7	29·94	128	25·85	·71	6·2
1885 -	101.6	29·9	57·1	30·00	123	26·94	·71	6·3
1886 -	104·1	28·1	57·1	29·96	128	24·00	·71	6·0
1887 -	104·9	33·0	58·1	29·94	153	32·39	·74	6·1
1888 -	104·0	28·3	57·5	29·99	123	19·42	·71	5·5
1889 -	99·8	31·3	58·5	29·94	125	27·14	·71	5·8
1890 -	103·4	29·0	58·7	29·92	140	24·24	·72	6·2
Means -	104·8	30·1	57·4	29·94	131	25·51	·71	5·9

Observations in 1890 compared with means.

113. It will be noticed that in 1890, according to observations taken at the Melbourne Observatory, although the maximum and minimum temperature were 1½ and 1 degree respectively below the average, yet the mean temperature was over 1¼ degree above the average; also that, whilst the mean atmospheric pressure was slightly below the rainfall, it was 1¼ inch below the average. The mean relative humidity, however, was above, and the mean amount of cloud much above, the average, whilst the number of wet days was nine more than usual.

Observations in 1890 and former years compared.

114. During the period of 27 years a higher temperature than the maximum of 1890 was experienced in all the years but 12, but a lower one than the minimum in only five of the previous years; moreover, the mean temperature was higher than in any previous year; the days on which rain fell were more

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numerous than in 22 of the years; but the amount of rainfall was lower than in all the years but 11.

Mean temperature in Melbourne and elsewhere.

115. The mean temperature of Melbourne over a series of years (57·4°) corresponds with that of Bathurst, a town in the interior of New South Wales, situated 2,150 feet above the sea-level, and is about equal to that of Washington (56·9°), Bordeaux (57·0°), Madrid (57·2°), and Marseilles (58·3°). It is higher by over two degrees than that of Hobart (55·1°), lower by 5⅓ degrees than that of Sydney (62·5°) and lower by 7⅓ degrees than that of Adelaide (64·6°).

Mean rainfall in Melbourne and elsewhere.

116. The mean rainfall in Melbourne (25·5 in.) corresponds approximately with that of Ventnor in England, and Perth in Western Australia, Goulburn in New South Wales, and Toulouse in France. It is somewhat above that in London, Paris, or Berlin, is 2 inches above that in Hobart, is 4½ inches above that in Adelaide, but is little more than half as much as in Sydney or Brisbane. The following is the average rainfall in some of the principal Australasian towns, and in a few British and foreign towns :—

AVERAGE RAINFALL IN PRINCIPAL TOWNS.

Australasian Towns.

Name of City or Town.	Days' Rain.	Rainfall.	Name of City or Town.	Days' Rain.	Rainfall.
		Inches.			Inches.
Brisbane - -	139	49·37	Melbourne - -	131	25·54
Sydney - -	147	49·17	Perth - -	—	25·00
Newcastle - -	113	46·98	Bathurst - -	73	23·62
Auckland (1888-89) -	168	38·29	Hobart - -	141	23·46
Orange - -	104	37·71	Wagga Wagga -	77	22·73
Dunedin (1888-89) -	144	35·90	Sandhurst - -	111	22·22
Wellington (1888-89)	170	35·68	Adelaide - -	120	21·09
Portland - -	185	33·63	Echuca - -	76	20·73
Belfast - -	163	28·85	Deniliquin - -	64	17·06
Albury - -	80	28·36	Bourke - -	43	16·15
Goulburn - -	84	26·13			

Extra-Australasian Towns.

Name of City or Town.	Rainfall.	Name of City or Town.	Rainfall.
	Inches.		Inches.
Bombay - - -	75	Geneva - - -	32
Lake District of Wales -	75	Rome - - -	31
New York - - -	47	Dublin - - -	30
Boston - - -	45	Brussels - - -	29
Florence - - -	41	Ventnor (England) - -	25½
Washington - - -	41	Toulouse - - -	24¼
Cork - - - -	40	Berlin - - -	24
Naples - - -	39	London - -	24
Plymouth - - -	39	Paris - - -	23
Milan - - - -	38	Marseilles - -	19
Liverpool - - -	37	Madrid - -	9
Manchester - - -	33		

Royal Mint; gold received.

117. A branch of the Royal Mint was established in Melbourne in 1872. From the time of the opening of the Mint to the end of 1890 upwards of 12 million ounces of gold were received thereat. In point of average purity, the gold sent to the Mint is considerably above the standard (viz., 22 carats, worth 3*l.* 17*s.* 10½*d.* per oz.), and thus the value of the whole quantity was rather over 48 millions sterling, or almost exactly 4*l.* per oz. The following table shows the quantity and value of gold received in each year :—

Gold received at the Melbourne Mint 1872 *to* 1890.

Year.	Quantity.	Value.
	Oz.	£
1872 - - - -	190,765	765,024
1873 - - - -	221,904	887,256
1874 - - - -	335,366	1,349,290
1875 - - - -	489,823	1,948,067
1876 - - - -	543,304	2,149,890
1877 - - - -	378,410	1,492,207
1878 - - - -	570,079	2,268,001
1879 - - - -	656,724	2,638,393
1880 - - - -	758,937	3,062,663
1881 - - - -	692,425	2,793,810
1882 - - - -	819,142	3,311,894
1883 - - - -	786,021	3,159,609
1884 - - - -	945,709	3,803,320
1885 - - - -	836,433	3,351,767
1886 - - - -	756,611	3,029,783
1887 - - -	770,222	3,075,487
1888 - - - -	757,813	3,023,414
1889 - - - -	761,931	3,030,958
1890 - - - -	752,923	3,003,635
Total - - -	12,024,542	48,144,468

Gold issued from Royal Mint.

118. Gold is issued from the Royal Mint as coin or as bullion; the former, with the exception of 555,614 half sovereigns, has consisted entirely of sovereigns. The following is a statement

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of the gold issued in each year, whether in the shape of coin or buillon :—

Gold issued at Melbourne Mint, 1872 *to* 1890.

Year.	Coin.		Bullion.		Total value of Coin and Bullion.
	Sovereigns.	Half-Sovereigns.	Quantity.	Value.	
	Number.	Number.	Oz.	£	£
1872 -	748,180	—	1,313	4,028	752,208
1873 -	752,199	165,034	3,129	11,126	845,842
1874 -	1,373,298	—	2,912	10,416	1,383,714
1875 -	1,888,405	—	3,553	13,857	1,902,262
1876 -	2,124,445	—	3,625	14,145	2,138,590
1877 -	1,487,316	80,016	3,326	13,004	1,540,328
1878 -	2,171,457	—	3,691	14,640	2,186,097
1879 -	2,740,594	—	1,743	6,839	2,747,433
1880 -	3,053,454	—	1,861	7,219	3,060,673
1881 -	2,325,303	42,009	106,999	448,767	2,795,074
1882 -	2,465,781	107,522	189,837	789,687	3,309,229
1883 -	2,050,450	—	266,679	1,112,478	3,162,928
1884 -	2,942,630	48,009	200,766	835,728	3,802,364
1885 -	2,967,143	11,003	91,335	379,839	3,352,483
1886 -	2,902,131	38,008	25,701	107,719	3,028,854
1887 -	2,856,424	64,013	45,030	186,395	3,074,825
1888 -	2,830,612	—	46,611	194,219	3,024,831
1889 -	2,732,590	—	72,497	299,285	3,031,875
1890 -	2,473,537	—	126,430	527,144	3,000,681
Total -	42,885,949	555,614	1,197,038	4,976,535	48,140,291

Gold coin issued.

119. The difference in value between the gold coin issued from the Mint in 1889 and 1890 was 259,000*l*., the excess being in favour of the former. The gold coin issued in 1890 was less not only than that in 1889, but was also less than that in 1888, 1887, 1886, 1885, 1884, 1880, or1879 ; it was, however, in excess of that in any other year.

Gold bullion issued.

120. The quantity of gold issued in the form of bullion has fallen off very considerably since 1883. In that year its value amounted to over 1,100,000*l*. or to 35 per cent. of the total value of coin and bullion issued ; but in 1890, although in excess of the

value in the previous five years, it amounted to only 527,000*l.* or something over 17 per cent. of that value.

121. During 1890 there were 16 banks of issue in Victoria, possessing therein 545 branches or agencies. There were only 11 banks of issue in the Colony both in 1885 and 1880. Number of banks.

122. The position of the banks as regards liabilities, assets, capital and profits, according to the sworn returns for the last quarter of the three years just named, was as follows :— Liabilities and assets of banks.

Financial Position of Banks, 1880, 1885, *and* 1890.

——	1880.	1885.	1890.
LIABILITIES.	£	£	£
Notes in circulation - - -	1,236,046	1,474,809	1,543,340
Bills in circulation - - -	50,987	67,968	142,770
Balances due to other banks - -	228,776	381,304	245,909
Deposits* not bearing interest - -	5,735,029	7,765,496	10,814,117
„ bearing interest - -	12,237,674	22,828,068	29,477,948
Total - - -	19,488,512	32,517.645	42,224,084
ASSETS.			
Coined gold, silver, and other metals -	3,408,961	3,798,154	6,868,328
Gold and silver in bullion or bars -	445,674	432,464	314,991
Landed and other property - -	865,488	1,125,477	1,824,564
Notes and bills of other banks - -	120,989	164,906	231,382
Balances due from other banks - -	404,690	440,432	421,849
Debts due to the banks† - - -	18,039,020	33,212,694	51,276,841
Total - - -	23,284,822	39,174,127	60,937,955
CAPITAL AND PROFITS.	£	£	£
Capital stock paid up - - -	9,126,250	8,901,250	13,281,790
Average rate per annum of last dividend declared.	10·391 per cent.	12·595 per cent.	12·277 per cent.
Amount of last dividend declared -	474,140	560,663	815,330
Amount of reserved profits after declaring dividend.	2,714,730	3,908,245	6,701,281

* Including Government deposits, the amount of which was not returned in 1880, but in 1885 consisted of 160,284*l.* not bearing interest, and 2,108,151*l.* bearing interest; and in 1890 of 195,689*l.* not bearing interest, and 895,318*l.* bearing interest.

† Including notes, bills of exchange, and all stock and funded debts of every description, except notes, bills, and balances due to the banks from other banks.

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Liabilities and assets of banks.

123. The following table shows the proportion of each item of the liabilities, and of each item of the assets to the total assets of the banks at the same periods :—

Liabilities and Assets of Banks.—Percentage of Items.

—	1880.	1885.	1890.
LIABILITIES.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Notes in circulation	6·34	4·54	3·65
Bills in circulation	0·26	0·21	0·34
Balance due to other banks	1·17	1·17	0·58
Deposits not bearing interest	29·43	23·88	25·61
„ bearing interest	62·80	70·20	69·82
Total	100·00	100·00	100·00
ASSETS.			
Coined gold, silver and other metals	14·64	9·70	11·26
Gold and silver in bullion or bars	1·91	1·10	0·52
Landed and other property	3·72	2·87	2·99
Notes and bills of other banks	0·52	0·42	0·38
Balance due from other banks	1·74	1·13	0·69
Debts due to the banks	77·47	84·78	84·16
Total	100·00	100·00	100·00

Analysis of bank returns.

The following results are arrived at by analysing the bank returns at the three periods :—

The liabilities amounted to -
- 83·70 per cent. of the assets in 1880.
- 83·01 „ „ 1885.
- 69·29 „ „ 1890.

Coin and bullion formed -
- 16·55 „ „ 1880.
- 10·80 „ „ 1885.
- 11·78 „ „ 1890.

The paid-up capital was equal to -
- 39·19 „ „ 1880.
- 22·72 „ „ 1885.
- 21·79 „ „ 1890.
- 46·83 „ liabilities in 1880.
- 27·37 „ „ 1885
- 31·46 „ „ 1890

Of the moneys deposited -
- 68·09 „ bore interest in 1880.
- 74·62 „ „ 1885.
- 73·16 „ „ 1890

Former periods and 1890 compared.

124. It will be observed that in 1890 the liabilities bore a much lower proportion to the assets than in 1885, or 1880, that coin and bullion bore a much smaller proportion to the assets than in 1880, but a larger proportion than in 1885; that the paid-up capital, which was formerly equal to over one-third of the assets, or nearly half of the liabilities, was, in 1890, equal to less than

one-fourth of the assets, and not quite a third of the liabilities; and that of the moneys deposited a smaller proportion bore interest at the last period than in 1885, but a larger proportion than in 1880.

Coin and bullion in banks.

125. In 1890 the coin and bullion held by the banks increased by 650,000*l.* sterling, as compared with the previous year, and was more by 345,000*l.* than in 1887, when the quantity was the largest ever held previously. The following figures show the value of coin and bullion held by the Victorian banks in the last quarter of 1890, and of each of the previous 14 years:—

Coin and Bullion held by Banks, 1876 *to* 1890.

(Average of the last quarter of each year.)

	£
1876	3,519,377
1877	2,438,657
1878	2,387,972
1879	3,475,345
1880	3,854,635
1881	3,008,491
1882	3,201,733
1883	3,245,472
1884	5,014,749
1885	4,230,618
1886	4,932,940
1887	6,838,719
1888	5,604,097
1889	6,533,037
1890	7,183,319

Bank deposits and advances.

126. In all the years the bank advances exceeded the moneys on deposit. The maximum of excess, viz., all but 11 millions, was reached in 1890; the next largest excess being 10 millions in 1889 and 7¾ millions in 1888. In no other previous years, except 1877 and 1878, did the excess exceed 4½ millions. The enormous increases in the last three years were brought about by the large speculations, chiefly in land, which received a sudden check about the latter part of 1888. The great commercial depression of 1879–80 is indicated by the restriction of advances in 1880, when the excess was as low as 66,000*l.* The chief periods of inflation, as indicated by the advances during the last

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15 years, were the three years 1888 to 1890, as is shown by the figures in the following table:—

DEPOSITS IN AND ADVANCES BY BANKS, 1876 TO 1890.

(*Average of the last quarter of each year.*)

Year.	Deposits.			Advances.	Excess of Advances over Deposits.
	Government.	Other.	Total.		
	£	£	£	£	£
1876 -	1,956,619	12,893,529	14,850,148	19,138,461	4,288,313
1877 -	1,148,176	15,355,352	16,503,528	22,493,261	5,989,733
1878 -	422,211	15,684,370	16,106,581	22,430,329	6,323,748
1879 -	1,120,809	15,305,356	16,426,165	20,717,750	4,291,585
1880 -	1,953,241	16,019,462	17,972,703	18,039,020	66,317
1881 -	2,470,880	18,681,030	21,151,910	22,783,420	1,631,510
1882 -	951,809	22,673,284	23,625,093	26,562,427	2,937,334
1883 -	575,058	23,484,111	24,059,169	26,994,137	2,934,968
1884 -	2,147,035	26,270,009	28,417,044	29,487,969	1,070,925
1885 -	2,268,435	28,325,129	30,593,564	33,212,694	2,619,130
1886 -	2,023,687	29,215,785	31,239,472	34,625,144	3,385,672
1887 -	2,899,185	32,316,362	35,215,547	38,034,062	2,818,515
1888 -	2,559,702	35,011,136	37,570,838	45,325,559	7,754,721
1889 -	1,585,834	37,183,102	38,768,936	48,817,112	10,048,176
1890 -	1,091,007	39,201,058	40,292,065	51,276,841	10,984,776

Savings banks.

127. Two kinds of savings banks exist in Victoria, the general savings banks, which were first established in 1842, and the Post Office Savings Banks, which were established in 1865. The following figures show the number of institutions, the number of depositors having accounts at the dates of balancing in 1890, and the total and average amount of depositors' balances at such dates:—

Savings Banks, 1890.

Description of Institution.	Number of Savings Banks.	Number of Depositors.	Amount remaining on Deposit.	
			Total.	Average to each Depositor.
			£	£ s. d.
Post Office Savings Banks -	343	104,320	1,996,093	19 2 8
General Savings Banks -	17	177,189	3,266,012	18 8 8
Total - -	360	281,509	5,262,105	18 13 10

Savings banks, 1872 to 1890.

128. In the 19 years, 1872 to 1890, the number of depositors in savings banks has increased more than fourfold. For several years prior to 1880 the amount standing to the credit of the depositors

had been tolerably uniform, but since then a steady increase has taken place, and by 1890 it has risen to over 5¼ millions sterling, or 240,000*l.* more than in the previous year, and over three times the amount in 1880, 10 years previously. The average amount to each depositor was highest in 1872 and lowest in 1887, the proportion of the latter being 16*s.* less than in the year under review. The following is a statement of the number of depositors and the amount remaining on deposit during the period referred to :—

Savings Banks, 1872 *to* 1890.

Year.	Number of Depositors.	Amount remaining on Deposit.	
		Total.	Average to each Depositor.
		£	£ *s.* *d.*
1872 - -	52,749	1,405,738	26 13 0
1873 -	58,547	1,498,618	25 11 11
1874 - -	64,014	1,617,301	25 5 3
1875 - -	65,837	1,469,849	22 6 6
1876 - -	69,027	1,507,235	21 16 9
1877 - -	73,245	1,575,305	21 10 2
1878 - -	76,696	1,510,273	19 13 7
1879 - -	82,941	1,520,296	18 6 7
1880 - -	92,115	1,661,409	18 0 9
1881 - -	107,282	2,569,438	23 19 0
1882 - -	122,584	3,121,246	25 9 3
1883 - -	136,087	2,818,122	20 14 2
1884 - -	152,342	2,981,083	19 11 4
1885 - -	170,014	3,337,018	19 12 7
1886 - -	189,359	3,589,916	18 19 2
1887 - -	206,596	3,696,699	17 17 10
1888 - -	237,433	4,669,541	19 13 4
1889 - -	261,067	5,021,522	19 4 8
1890 - -	281,509	5,262,105	18 13 10

Rate of interest in savings banks.

129. The highest rate of interest savings banks are permitted to give on moneys left on deposit is 4 per cent., which rate was paid in all the years. Interest is allowed on the minimum monthly balance, but not on any amounts which do not remain in the savings banks for a full month.

Male and female depositors.

130. In the General Savings Banks, the male depositors in 1890 numbered 98,807, and the female depositors 78,382, or about 79 of the latter to 100 of the former. In the general population the proportion of females per 100 males is 90, so that relatively to their respective numbers females do not appear to use the savings banks as much as males.

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Small depositors.

131. Nearly four-fifths of the depositors in savings banks have less than 20*l.* to their credit, and over a tenth have between 20*l.* and 50*l.*

Imports, exports, and trade.

132. In 1890 the total declared value of the imports was 22,954,015*l.*, and that of the exports 13,266,222*l.*; the excess of imports over exports was thus 9,687,793*l.*, and the whole value of external trade was 36,220,237*l.*

Imports and exports last two years.

133. The value of imports was lower in 1890 than in 1889 by 1,448,745*l.*, or by 6 per cent., but the value of exports was higher than in that year by 531,488*l.*, or by 4 per cent. The value of the total trade was thus lower than in the previous year by 917,257*l.*

Imports and exports latest and former years.

134. The imports in 1890, as indicated by their values, were higher than in any other year of the Colony's history, except 1888 and 1889; the exports, however, according to the same standard, although higher than in 1889, 1887, and 1886, were exceeded in all but seven of the other 35 years which have elapsed since 1854.

Imports and exports per head.

135. In the year under review, the value per head of imports was 20*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.* and the value per head of exports was 11*l.* 17*s.* 10*d.*; the total value of external trade per head was thus 32*l.* 9*s.* 4*d.* The value of imports per head was much lower than in 1889 or 1888, was about the same as in 1884, but was higher than in any other of the previous 23 years, except 1882, and the three years 1873 to 1875; the value of exports per head was higher than in 1889 or 1887, but lower than in every other year since the separation of Victoria from New South Wales.

Imports and exports, the produce of various countries.

136. The value of the imports into Victoria of articles entered as being the produce or manufacture of the United Kingdom, of other British dominions, and of foreign States, and the value of the exports from Victoria of articles entered as the produce or manufacture of the same countries, and of the Colony itself, also the per-centage of such values to the total values of imports and exports in 1890, will be found in the following table:—

Imports and Export the Produce of different Countries, 1890.

Articles the Produce or Manufacture of—	Imports.		Exports.	
	Value.	Per-centage.	Value.	Per-centage.
	£		£	
Victoria - - -	—	—	10,291,821	77·58
The United Kingdom -	9,637,926	41·99	1,127,642	8·50
Other British possessions -	9,485,951	41·33	1,175,454	8·86
Foreign States - -	3,830,138	16·68	671,305	5·06
Total - -	22,954,015	100·00	13,266,222	100·00

Export of Victorian produce.

137. The following table gives the total value, and the value per head, of articles of Victorian produce exported, and their proportion to the total exports, in each of the last 24 years :—

Year.	Exports of Articles produced or manufactured in Victoria.		
	Total Value.	Value per head of the Population.	Per-centage of Total Exports.
	£	£ s. d.	
1867	9,972,333	15 9 7	78·37
1868	11,697,893	17 12 10	75·02
1869	9,539,816	13 17 8	70·85
1870	9,103,323	12 15 3	73·00
1871	11,151,622	15 2 7	76·60
1872	10,758,658	14 5 8	77·56
1873	11,876,707	15 10 4	77·61
1874	11,352,515	14 12 0	73·52
1875	10,571,806	13 8 6	71·59
1876	10,155,916	12 15 0	71·54
1877	11,269,086	13 18 9	74·35
1878	10,676,499	12 19 11	71·53
1879	8,069,857	9 13 6	64·80
1880	11,220,467	13 3 11	70·33
1881	12,480,567	14 7 3	76·79
1882	12,570,788	14 2 10	77·63
1883	13,292,294	14 12 3	81·06
1884	13,155,484	14 2 4	81·96
1885	12,452,245	13 0 6	80·06
1886	9,054,687	9 4 2	76·77
1887	8,502,979	8 7 6	74·91
1888	10,356,633	9 16 9	74·76
1889	9,776,670	8 19 9	76·77
1890	10,291,821	9 4 6	77·57

Decrease of exports of Victorian products.

138. It should be pointed out that the returns of articles set down as produced or manufactured in Victoria are not always reliable, there being no other evidence as to the origin of such articles than the statements of the shippers, which, it is known, are sometimes made very loosely. It will be seen that the total value of exports of local productions shows a considerable falling off during the last five years as compared with the six previous ones. The worst year was 1887, when such value was lower than in any of the previous 20 years, except 1879, and the value of such exports per head was absolutely the lowest in the whole period; but since then the local export trade has slightly revived, although it is still considerably below the standard of the earlier years. The proportion of exports of home products to the total exports was higher in 1890 than in the great majority of previous years.

Trade with neighbouring Colonies, 1880 to 1890.

139. The value in 1890 of imports to Victoria from the neighbouring Colonies was somewhat lower than in 1888 or 1889, but considerably higher than in any other of the previous 10 years. The value of the exports from Victoria to the neighbouring Colonies, which had been steadily increasing up to 1884, has since shown a considerable falling off, and in 1890 was about the same

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as in 1889, when it was lower than in any of the previous 10 years as will be seen by the following figures:—

*Trade between Victoria and the other Australasian Colonies,** 1880 *to* 1890.

Year.	Imports from the neighbouring Colonies.	Exports to the neighbouring Colonies.	Excess in favour of	
			Imports.	Exports.
	£	£	£	£
1880 - -	6,299,597	4,567,829	1,731,615	—
1881 - -	5,949,730	4,736,442	1,213,288	—
1882 - -	5,914,327	5,225,839	688,488	—
1883 - -	5,658,854	5,744,780	—	85,926
1884 - -	6,475,915	5,826,826	649,089	—
1885 - -	5,652,169	5,633,247	18,922	—
1886 - -	6,254,393	4,108,757	2,145,636	—
1887 - -	7,327,467	4,496,504	2,830,963	—
1888 - -	8,484,559	4,307,017	4,177,542	—
1889 - -	8,539,854	4,022,054	4,517,800	—
1890 - -	8,458,178	4,049,206	4,408,972	—

Imports from other Colonies in excess of exports thereto.

140. It will be observed that Victoria imported from the other Colonies more than she exported thereto in all the years named except 1883, and that the excess of imports in the last two was very much larger than in any other years shown. The figures in the last two columns show the net excess in favour of imports during the 11 years to have amounted to 22,296,389*l.*, or an average of nearly 2,030,000*l.* per annum.

Imports of principal articles.

141. The values of 66 of the principal articles imported in 1890 are as follows:—

Imports of Principal Articles, 1890.

Articles.	Value.
	£
Apparel and slops - - - - - -	428,496
Bags and sacks (including woolpacks) - - -	196,826
Beer, cider, and perry - - - - - -	320,089
Books - - - - - - - -	268,879
Boots and shoes - - - - - - -	127,286
Butter and cheese - - - - - - -	37,166
Building materials - - - - - - -	250,283
Carpeting and druggeting - - - - - -	91,442
Coal - - - - - - - -	745,589
Coffee - - - - - - - - -	65,388

* Exclusive of Fiji.

Articles.	Value.
	£
Cottons	958,266
Cutlery	45,257
Drugs and chemicals	96,567
Earthenware, brownware, and chinaware	105,944
Fancy goods	54,851
Fish	194,150
Flour and biscuit	11,638
Fruit, (including currants and raisins)	347,443
Furniture and upholstery	73,336
Glass and glassware	153,291
Gloves	126,183
Gold (exclusive of specie)	563,721
Grain, wheat	23,707
„ oats	59,607
„ other (including malt and rice)	91,892
Haberdashery	313,115
Hardware and ironmongery	148,506
Hats, caps, and bonnets	114,852
Hides, skins, and pelts	107,977
Hops	19,125
Hosiery	138,384
Iron and steel (exclusive of railway rails, telegraph wire, &c.)	1,034,112
Jewellery	49,487
Lead ore, pig, pipe, sheet	33,603
Leather, leather-ware and leather-cloth	191,738
Linen piece goods and manufactures	41,116
Live stock	1,997,051
Machinery	348,720
Manufactures of metal	202,651
Matches and vestas	49,900
Meats, (fresh, preserved, and salted)	46,051
Musical instruments	118,526
Nails and screws	24,371
Oil of all kinds	262,049
Oilmen's stores	23,949
Opium	35,736
Paints and colours	80,417
Paper (including paper bags)	298,980
Plated ware	71,408
Sewing machines	54,940
Silks	404,260
Specie, gold	36,282
„ other	66,452
Spirits	487,941
Stationery	94,989
Sugar and molasses	1,208,797
Tea	666,239
Timber	1,288,982
Tin	52,065
Tobacco, cigars, and snuff	335,379
Tools and utensils	82,625
Watches, clocks, and watchmaker's materials	81,946
Wine	143,345
Woodenware	48,355
Wool	3,190,298
Woollens and woollen piece goods	785,961
Total	20,217,983
All other articles	2,736,032
Total Imports	22,954,015

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Exports of principal articles.

142. The exports of 50 of the principal articles are in like manner given for the same year:—

Exports of Principal Articles, 1890.

Articles.	Value.
	£
Antimony ore, regulus, &c.	601
Apparel and slops	167,682
Bags and sacks	48,022
Bark	60,411
Bones and bonedust	7,114
Books	61,891
Boots and shoes	37,047
Butter and cheese	66,396
Candles	5,179
Coffee	7,265
Copper ore, regulus, &c.	2,060
Cottons	77,915
Flour and biscuit	393,125
Fruits (including currants and raisins)	51,693
Gold (exclusive of specie)	516,438
Grain, wheat	114,357
„ oats	4,745
„ other (including malt and rice)	32,170
Haberdashery	39,019
Hardware and ironmongery	36,497
Hay, straw and chaff	83,558
Hides	13,717
Horns and hoofs	4,144
Iron, &c.	56,747
Leather, leatherware and leathern cloth	212,910
Live stock	476,717
Machinery	135,965
Manufactures of metals	33,869
Meats, fresh and preserved	24,744
„ salted (including hams and bacon)	9,055
Oil of all kinds	32,188
Onions	27,960
Potatoes	24,787
Silks	40,710
Skins and pelts	159,164
Soap	23,684
Specie, gold	2,223,065
„ silver	13,100
Spirits	89,516
Stationery	36,203
Sugar and molasses	131,988
Tallow	156,851
Tea	367,865
Timber	35,700
Tin, tin ore, black sand	1,737
Tobacco, cigars, and snuff	107,928
Travellers' samples	73,367
Wine	63,385
Wool	5,933,699
Woollens and woollen piece goods	65,620
Total	12,389,570
All other articles	876,652
Total Exports	13,266,222

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Excess of imports over exports, &c., 1837 to 1890.

143. In 35 out of 54 years ended with 1890, the value of imports to Victoria exceeded that of exports therefrom, but in the other 19 years the value of exports was the greater. The following is a statement of the amounts by which the imports exceeded the exports in those years in which the excess was in favour of the former, and the amounts by which the exports exceeded the imports in those years in which the excess was in the opposite direction; also the net excess of imports during the whole period :—

Imports in excess of Exports, and the Contrary,
1837 *to* 1890.

Year.	Imports in Excess of Exports.	Exports in Excess of Imports.
	£	£
1837	103,201	—
1838	45,232	—
1839	127,038	—
1840	306,507	—
1841	164,094	—
1842	78,644	—
1843	—	66,446
1844	—	105,785
1845	—	215,304
1846	—	109,640
1847	—	230,815
1848	—	301,683
1849	—	275,495
1850	—	296,871
1851	—	366,472
1852	—	3,381,807
1853	4,781,093	—
1854	5,883,847	—
1855	—	1,485,399
1856	—	527,491
1857	2,176,697	—
1858	1,119,040	—
1859	1,755,032	—
1860	2,131,026	—
1861	—	296,154
1862	448,365	—
1863	552,431	—
1864	1,076,431	—
1865	106,789	—
1866	1,882,165	—
1867	—	1,050,347
1868	—	2,273,328
1869	444,636	—
1870	—	14,256
1871	—	2,215,825
1872	—	179,873
1873	1,231,402	—
1874	1,512,876	—
1875	1,918,900	—
1876	1,508,867	—
1877	1,204,617	—
1878	1,236,173	—
1879	2,581,368	—
1880	—	1,397,665
1881	466,418	—

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Year.	Imports in Excess of Exports.	Exports in Excess of Imports.
	£	£
1882 - -	2,554,502	—
1883 - -	1,344,983	—
1884 - -	3,151,168	—
1885 - -	2,492,846	—
1886 - -	6,735,254	—
1887 - -	7,671,006	—
1888 - -	10,118,371	—
1889 - -	11,668,026	—
1890 - -	9,677,783	—
Total - -	90,257,828	14,790,656
Deduct excess of exports -	14,790,656	—
Net excess of imports -	75,467,172	—

Balance of trade in 54 years.

144. It will be observed that in the 54 years of which mention is made in the table the imports exceeded the exports by 75,500,000*l.*, or an average of about 1,400,000*l.* per annum, which excess, it should be mentioned, would be added to if the value of the British and foreign built ships placed on the register of Victoria were included with the imports, but diminished if freight, which is included in the value of imports, were also added to the exports.

Vessels inwards and outwards.

145. The number of vessels entering and leaving Victorian ports in 1890 was smaller by 808 than in 1889, and by 421 than in 1888, but larger than in any other former years; the tonnage in 1890 was less by 235,837 than in 1889, but slightly more than in 1888, and considerably larger than in any other year. The following table contains a statement of the number, tonnage, and crews of vessels inwards and outwards during the 22 years ended with 1890:—

Vessels Entered and Cleared, 1868 *to* 1890

Year.	Vessels Entered.			Vessels Cleared.			Total Entered and cleared.	
	No.	Tons.	Men.	No.	Tons.	Men.	No.	Tons.
1868 -	2,067	653,362	33,613	2,172	685,207	35,332	4,239	1,338,569
1869 -	2,320	721,274	35,628	2,334	730,961	35,696	4,654	1,452,235
1870 -	2,003	663,764	32,838	2,187	681,098	33,836	4,280	1,344,862
1871 -	2,137	663,002	33,789	2,257	692,023	35,050	4,394	1,355,025
1872 -	2,104	666,336	33,551	2,234	694,426	35,353	4,338	1,360,762
1873 -	2,187	756,103	36,307	2,226	762,912	36,216	4,413	1,519,015
1874 -	2,100	777,110	36,834	2,122	792,509	36,472	4,222	1,569,619
- -	2,171	840,386	38,681	2,223	833,499	38,454	4,394	1,673,885

Years.	Vessels Entered.			Vessels Cleared.			Total Entered and cleared.	
	No.	Tons.	Men.	No.	Tons.	Men.	No.	Tons.
1876 -	2,086	810,062	38,960	2,150	847,026	39,600	4,236	1,657,088
1877 -	2,192	939,661	43,928	2,219	935,324	43,786	4,411	1,874,985
1878 -	2,119	951,750	43,082	2,173	961,677	43,391	4,292	1,913,427
1879 -	2,084	963,087	43,676	2,083	977,135	43,648	4,167	1,940,222
1880 -	2,076	1,078,885	51,585	2,115	1,101,014	52,153	4,191	2,179,899
1881 -	2,125	1,219,231	54,792	2,123	1,192,671	54,521	4,248	2,411,902
1882 -	2,089	1,349,093	55,814	2,079	1,341,791	54,855	4,168	2,690,884
1883 -	2,023	1,464,752	61,630	2,064	1,499,579	61,969	4,087	2,964,331
1884	1,986	1,569,162	64,488	1,989	1,582,425	64,546	3,975	3,151,587
1885 -	2,154	1,631,266	66,624	2,119	1,628,892	66,201	4,273	3,260,158
1886 -	2,307	1,848,058	73,949	2,324	1,887,329	73,908	4,631	3,735,387
1887 -	2,435	1,920,180	80,918	2,418	1,938,063	79,888	4,853	3,858,243
1888 -	2,724	2,182,071	85,879	2,630	2,125,812	84,233	5,354	4,307,883
1889 -	2,855	2,270,827	89,187	2,886	2,328,351	89,489	5,741	4,599,178
1890 -	2,474	2,178,551	85,818	2,459	2,184,790	85,163	4,933	4,363,341

Increase in shipping.

146. Some idea of the extension of Victorian commerce may be formed from the circumstance that, although the population of the Colony increased by 56 per cent. during the 20 years ended with 1890, the tonnage of vessels entered and cleared in the last as compared with the first year of that period increased more than threefold; also, that whilst the population in the 10 years ended with 1890 increased only 32 per cent. the tonnage in 1890 was twice as great as that in 1880.

Farm holdings and number of cultivators.

147. The total number of farm holdings returned in 1890–91 was 36,013 of which 35,066 were in shires and 947 in cities, towns, or boroughs. The land under cultivation was 2,652,768 acres or 25,506 acres more than in the previous year.

Land under principal crops.

148. The principal crops grown are wheat, oats, barley, potatoes and green forage. The following table shows the extent, of land under each of these crops in the last two seasons:—

Land under Principal Crops, 1890 *and* 1891.

Year ended March—	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Potatoes.	Hay.	Green Forage.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
1890 - - -	1,178,735	236,496	90,724	47,139	451,546	155,596
1891 - - -	1,145,163	221,048	87,751	53,818	413,052	245,332
Increase -	—	—	—	6,679	—	89,736
Decrease -	33,572	15,448	2,973	—	38,494	—

Produce of principal crops.

149. The following is a statement of the gross produce of these crops (except green forage, of which no account is kept), in the same two years:—

Gross Produce of Principal Crops, 1890 *and* 1891.

Year ended March—	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Potatoes.	Hay.
	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Tons.	Tons.
1890 - -	11,495,720	5 644,867	1,831,132	157,104	666,385
1891 - - -	12,751,295	4,919,325	1,571,599	204,155	567,779
Increase	1,255,575	—	—	47,051	—
Decrease -	—	725,542	259,533	—	98,606

Average per acre of principal crops.

150. The average produce per acre of these crops was as follows in the last 10 years :—

Average Produce of Principal Crops, 1882 *to* 1891.

Year ended March.	Average Produce per Acre of—				
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Potatoes.	Hay.
	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Tons.	Tons.
1882 - - -	9·40	24·57	19·07	3·43	1·13
1883 - - -	9·03	26·17	17·35	3·78	1·06
1884 - - -	14·10	25·07	22·84	4·01	1·43
1885 - - -	9·52	23·40	17·38	4·16	1·09
1886 - - -	8·99	21·72	17·58	3·83	1·05
1887 - - -	11·49	22·91	22·36	3·41	1·09
1888 - - -	10·81	22·92	23·34	4·11	1·41
1889 - - -	7·10	14·20	13·55	3·04	0·75
1890 - - -	9·75	23·87	20·18	3·33	1·48
1891 - - -	11·14	22·25	17·91	3·79	1·37
Mean - -	11·62	21·00	19·75	3·47	1·24

Live stock, 1881 and 1891.

151. Information as to the numbers of live stock kept was obtained at the recent census, and these are compared in the following table with the numbers enumerated at the census taken 10 years previously :—

Live Stock, 1881 *and* 1891.

Census Period.	Horses.	Cattle.			Sheep.	Pigs.
		Milch Cows.	Exclusive of Milch Cows.	Total.		
3rd April 1881 -	275,516	329,198	957,069	1,286,267	10,360,285	241,936
5th April 1891 -	436,459	395,091	1,387,887	1,782,978	12,736,143	282,457
Increase -	160,943	65,893	430,818	496,711	2,375,858	40,521

Goats, asses, and mules.

152. Besides the live stock returned at the last census, as shown in the table, 68,462 goats, 135 asses, and 78 mules were enumerated in 1881, and 44,482 goats, 139 asses, and 224 mules in 1891.

Stock per square mile.

153. There are now in Victoria 5 horses, 20 head of cattle, 145 sheep and 3 pigs, or taking the different kinds together, 173 head of stock of these descriptions, large and small, to the square mile.

Value of agricultural, pastoral, and dairy produce.

154 The estimated gross values of agricultural, pastoral, and dairy produce for the year 1890–91 were as follows :—

Gross Value of Agricultural, Pastoral, and Dairy Produce 1890–91.

	£
Agricultural produce - -	7,771,732
Pastoral „ - - -	10,105,498
Dairy „ - - -	2,912,469
Total - -	20,789,699

Manufactories, works, &c., in Victoria and New South Wales.

155. According to the official returns, the manufactories and works (including stone quarries) in Victoria exceed those in New South Wales by 672, and the hands employed are also more numerous by 11,650. The following are the figures for those Colonies :—

Manufactories, Works, &c. in Victoria and New South Wales, 1891*

——	Victoria.	New South Wales.
Number of establishments - -	3,291	2,619
Hands employed - - -	58,175	46,525

Gold raised, 1888 and 1890

156. The gold raised in Victoria in 1890 was 588,561 ozs., which is less than the quantity obtained in 1889 by 26,278 ozs.,

* For a complete list of manufactories, *see* Digest for 1889, page 70 [C.—6269–3.].

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representing, at 4*l.* per oz., a decreased value of 105,112*l.* The following are the figures for the two years:—

Quantity and Value of Gold raised in 1889 *and* 1890.

Year.	Gold raised in Victoria.	
	Estimated Quantity.	Value, at £4 per oz.
	oz.	£
1889 - - -	614,839	2,459,356
1890 - - -	588,561	2,354,244
Decrease - -	26,278	105,112

Gold raised, 1851 to 1890.

157. Carrying on to the end of 1890 the calculations given in previous years, the following may be estimated as the total quantity and value of the gold raised in Victoria from the period of its first discovery about the middle of 1851. The figures give an average per annum during the whole period of about 1,421,000 ozs., which is nearly two and a half times the quantity raised in 1890:—

Estimated Total Quantity and Value of Gold raised in Victoria, 1851 *to* 1890.

Gold raised in Victoria.	Estimated Quantity.	Value, at £4 per oz.
	oz.	£
Prior to 1890 - -	56,250,790	225,003,192
During 1890 - -	588,561	2,354,244
Total - -	56,839,351	227,357,436

University.

158. The Melbourne University, which has been established since 1855, receives an endowment or subsidy from the State of 16,500*l.* per annum. In the Act of Incorporation it is provided that no religious test shall be administered to anyone to entitle him to be admitted to the rights and privileges of the institution. The Council are empowered to grant in any faculty except divinity, any degree, diploma, certificate, or license which can be conferred in any University in the British dominions. A Chair of Music has also been established in connexion with the University, for the endowment of which the Hon. Francis Ormond, M.L.C., contributed the sum of 20,000*l.* On the 22nd March 1880, the University was thrown open to females, and they can now be admitted to all its corporate privileges. Affiliated to the University are three colleges in connexion with the Church of England, the Presbyterian, and the Wesleyan Church respectively, and named respectively Trinity, Ormond, and Queen's; Ormond College is

named after the late Hon. Francis Ormond, M.L.C. who contributed 42,000*l.* in his lifetime, and at his death bequeathed a further sum of 40,000*l.*, towards its erection and endowment. The University Hall, built at a cost of about 40,000*l.*, is called the "Wilson Hall," after Sir Samuel Wilson, now a member of the British House of Commons, who contributed the greater portion of the funds for its erection. Since the opening of the University 2,908 students matriculated, and 1,572 degrees were granted, of which 1,238 were direct, and 334 *ad eundem*. The students who matriculated in 1889 numbered 189, and the graduates in the same year numbered 144.

State education.

159. The State education system of Victoria, the basis of which is that secular instruction shall be provided, without payment, for children whose parents may be willing to accept it, but that whether accepted or not, satisfactory evidence must be produced that all children up to the age of 13 are educated up to a given standard, has been most successful in its operation; and for securing the object sought to be obtained, it is believed, comp res favourably with that of any other country in the world. In 1872, just before the present system came into operation, the number of children returned as on the rolls of State schools was 136,055, whilst in 1890, after the system had been in force for 17 years, the number had increased to 250,097, or by 81 per cent., the increase of children at the school age in the population during the same period having been only about 20 per cent Besides the ordinary course of instruction, which is quite elementary free instruction is also given to a large number of scholars in drill, gymnastics, singing, and drawing; the Kindergarten system of instruction for young children has been introduced; and lectures in cookery and agriculture are also given in some of the principal schools; whilst extra subjects are taught on payment of a small charge.

Exhibitions and scholarships.

160. The higher education for State school scholars is provided for by 200 scholarships, of the annual value of 10*l.*, tenable for three years, which are annually awarded to the most clever and industrious pupils of State schools under 15 years of age, who are selected by competitive examination to enable them to pursue advanced studies at the principal grammar schools, schools of mines, agricultural colleges, or other schools approved of by the Minister. Moreover, for the purpose of enabling the most intelligent of these scholars to finish their education at the University, 11 exhibitions, each of the yearly value of 40*l.*, tenable for four years, are annually awarded for competition amongst the holders of the scholarships.

Private schools.

161. Besides the State schools, which are attended by five sixths of the children under instruction in the Colony, there were in 1891, 790 private schools attended by 40,181 scholars. Some of these private schools are attached to religious denominations, as many as 203, with 21,623 scholars, being connected with the Roman Catholic Church. Six are called colleges or grammar schools, two of which are connected with the Church of England, two with the Roman Catholic, one with the Presbyterian, and one with the Wesleyan Church. In these, as well as in some of the

VICTORIA.

Wages.

other private schools, a very high class of education, quite equal to that obtained in the best public schools in England, is given.

162. The following table contains a statement of the average rates of wages paid in respect to engagements made in Melbourne in 1890, and in the first year of each of the two previous quinquennia. It has been compiled from statements obtained from the best authorities, and is believed to be fairly representative of a state of affairs which must always be subject to some fluctuations. Throughout Victoria the recognised working day for artisans and general labourers is eight hours:—

Wages in Melbourne, 1880, 1885, *and* 1890.

Description of Labour.	1880.	1885.	1890.
1.—Domestic Servants.			
Males.			
Coachmen, footmen, grooms, gardeners - per week, with board and lodging -	15*s.* to 30*s.*	20*s.* to 30*s.*	20*s.* to 30*s.*
Butlers - - - „	—	20*s.* to 40*s.*	20*s.* to 40*s.*
Females.			
Cooks - - - per annum, with board and lodging	35*l.* to 60*l.*	40*l.* to 75*l.*	40*l.* to 75*l.*
Laundresses - - „	30*l.*	35*l.* to 52*l.*	40*l.* to 52*l.*
Housemaids - - „	25*l.* to 35*l.*	25*l.* to 40*l.*	30*l.* to 40*l.*
Nursemaids - - „	25*l.* to 35*l.*	20*l.* to 40*l.*	30*l.* to 40*l.*
General servants - „	30*l.* to 35*l.*	26*l.* to 40*l.*	30*l.* to 40*l.*
Girls - - - per week, with board and lodging -	—	5*s.* to 8*s.*	8*s.* to 10*s.*
2.—Hotel Servants.			
Males.			
Barmen - - - per week, with board and lodging -	20*s.* to 40*s.*	30*s.* to 45*s.*	30*s.* to 45*s.*
Waiters - - - „	25*s.* to 35*s.*	20*s.* to 40*s.*	25*s.* to 40*s.*
Boots - - - „	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 25*s.*
Ostlers - - - „	17*s.* 6*d.* to 20*s.*	17*s.* 6*d.* to 20*s.*	20*s.* to 25*s.*
Cooks - - - „	25*s.* to 40*s.*	20*s.* to 65*s.*	20*s.* to 65*s.*
Females.			
Barmaids - - per week, with board and lodging -	15*s.* to 25*s.*	15*s.* to 25*s.*	20*s.* to 30*s.*
Waitresses - - „	12*s.* 6*d.* to 15*s.*	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 20*s.*
Housemaids - - per annum, with board and lodging	30*l.* to 35*l.*	30*l.* to 40*l.*	30*l.* to 40*l.*
Cooks - - - „	50*l.* to 80*l.*	50*l.* to 100*l.*	50*l.* to 100*l.*
3.—Farm Servants.			
Males.			
Ploughmen - - per week, and found	20*s.* to 21*s.*	20*s.* to 25*s.*	20*s.* to 25*s.*
Farm labourers - - „	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 20*s.*
Milkmen for dairies - „	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 20*s.*

Description of Labour.		1880.	1885.	1890.
3.—FARM SERVANTS—*cont.*				
Males—cont.				
Cheesemakers	per week, and found	—	25*s.* to 40*s.*	25*s.* to 40*s.*
Reapers	per acre, and found	7*s.* 6*d.* to 15*s.*	10*s.* to 15*s.*	10*s.* to 15*s.*
Mowers	„	4*s.* to 6*s.*	3*s.* 6*d.* to 6*s.*	4*s.* to 6*s.*
Threshers	per bushel, and found	5*d.* to 7*d.*	5*d.* to 7*d.*	5*d.* to 7*d.*
Cooks	per annum, and found	50*l.*	50*l.* to 60*l.*	50*l.* to 60*l.*
Females.				
Dairymaids	per annum, with board and lodging	30*l.* to 35*l.*	30*l.* to 35*l.*	30*l.* to 35*l.*
Cooks	„	30*l.* to 35*l.*	30*l.* to 50*l.*	30*l.* to 35*l.*
General servants	„	30*l.* to 35*l.*	30*l.* to 35*l.*	30*l.* to 35*l.*
Hop-pickers	per bushel	—	3½*d.* to 4½*d.*	3½*d.* to 4½*d.*
Maize-pickers	per bag	—	6*d.*	6*d.*
Married couples (generally useful)	per annum, with board and lodging	60*l.* to 70*l.*	60*l.* to 90*l.*	60*l.* to 80*l.*
4.—STATION SERVANTS.				
Males.				
Boundary riders	per annum, with rations	40*l.* to 60*l.*	40*l.* to 60*l.*	40*l.* to 60*l.*
Shepherds	„	40*l.* to 50*l.*	36*l.* to 52*l.*	36*l.* to 52*l.*
Stockmen	„	60*l.* to 70*l.*	55*l.* to 75*l.*	50*l.* to 75*l.*
Hutkeepers	„	26*l.* to 40*l.*	26*l.* to 40*l.*	30*l.* to 40*l.*
Cooks	„	45*l.* to 55*l.*	50*l.* to 60*l.*	60*l.* to 70*l.*
Labourers	per week, with rations	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 20*s.*
Drovers	„	25*s.* to 40*s.*	25*s.* to 40*s.*	25*s.* to 40*s.*
Sheepwashers	„	15*s.* to 25*s.*	15*s.* to 25*s.*	15*s.* to 25*s.*
Shearers	per 100 sheep shorn, with rations	12*s.* to 15*s.*	12*s.* to 15*s.*	15*s.* to 16*s.*
Females.				
Cooks	per annum, with board and lodging	45*l.* to 55*l.*	30*l.* to 50*l.*	30*l.* to 50*l.*
General servants	„	18*l.* to 40*l.*	20*l.* to 40*l.*	30*l.* to 45*l*
Married couples	per annum, with rations	70*l.* to 90*l.*	60*l.* to 90*l.*	70*l.* to 90*l.*
5.—WORKERS IN BOOKS, &c.				
Printers—				
Compositors	per 1,000	1*s.*	1*s.* 1*d.*	1*s.* 2*d.*
Machinists	per week	—	—	2*l.* 10*s.* to 4*l.*
Lithographers	„	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 15*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 15*s.*	2*l.* 5*s.* to 3*l.* 15*s.*
Binders	„	2*l.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* to 3*l.*	3*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Paper rulers	„	3*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s*	3*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	3*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Sewers and folders (females)	„	15*s.* to 25*s.*	15*s.* to 25*s.*	15*s.* to 25*s.*

Description of Labour.		1880.	1885.	1890.
6.—In Watches, Jewellery, and Precious Metals.				
Watchmakers	per week	3*l.* 10*s.* to 5*l.*	3*l.* 10*s.* to 6*l.*	2*l.* to 4*l.* 10*s.*
Manufacturing jewellers	„	2*l.* 15*s.* to 3*l.* 15*s.*	2*l.* 15*s.* to 3*l.* 15*s.*	2*l.* to 5*l.*
Enamellers	„	6*l.* to 8*l.*	6*l.* to 8*l.*	3*l.* to 4*l.*
7.—In Metals other than Gold and Silver.				
Blacksmiths	per day	10*s.* to 13*s.*	10*s.* to 14*s.*	10*s.* to 12*s.*
Farriers, firemen	per week	2*l.* 15*s.*	2*l.* 15*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
„ floormen	„	30*s.* to 40*s.*	30*s.* to 40*s.*	30*s.* to 50*s.*
Hammermen	per day	7*s.* to 8*s.*	7*s.* to 8*s.*	6*s.* to 8*s.*
Fitters	„	9*s.* to 12*s.*	9*s.* to 12*s.*	8*s.* to 12*s.*
Turners	„	10*s.* to 13*s.*	10*s.* to 13*s.*	9*s.* to 13*s.*
Boilermakers and platers	„	11*s.* to 13*s.*	10*s.* to 14*s.*	10*s.* to 14*s.*
Riveters	„	9*s.* to 11*s.*	9*s.* to 11*s.*	10*s.* to 11*s.*
Moulders	„	10*s.* to 12*s.*	10*s.* to 12*s.*	10*s.* to 12*s.*
Brassfinishers, coppersmiths	„	9*s.* to 12*s.*	8*s.* to 12*s.*	10*s.* to 12*s.*
Tinsmiths	per week	2*l.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* to 3*l.*
Ironworkers	„	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* to 3*l.*
Galvanizers	„	3*l.*	3*l.*	2*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Plumbers, gasfitters	„	3*l.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	3*l.*
8.—In Carriages and Harness.				
Smiths	per week	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 5*s.*	2*l.* 5*s.* to 4*l.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Bodymakers	„	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 4*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Wheelers	„	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Painters	per day	8*s.* to 12*s.*	10*s.* to 12*s.* 6*d.*	6*s.* 6*d.* to 11*s.*
Trimmers	per week	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Vycemen	„	25*s.* to 40*s.*	30*s.* to 50*s.*	30*s.* to 50*s.*
Saddlers	„	2*l.* 15*s.*	2*l.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* to 5*l.*
9.—Workers in Ships and Boats.				
Sailors—				
Sailing vessels	per month, and found	4*l.* 10*s.* to 5*l.*	4*l.* 10*s.* to 5*l.*	3*l.* 10*l.* to 5*l.*
Steamships	„	6*l.*	6*l.*	7*l.*
Ship carpenters, shipwrights	per day	13*s.*	12*s.* to 13*s.*	13*s.*
Stevedores' men, lumpers	per hour	1*s.* 3*d.*	1*s.* 3*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*	1*s.* 3*d.*
10.—In Houses and Buildings.				
Masons	per day	10*s.* to 11*s.*	10*s.* to 12*s.*	10*s.* to 12*s.*
Plasterers	„	10*s.*	10*s.* to 12*s.*	10*s.*
Bricklayers	„	10*s.*	10*s.* to 12*s.*	10*s.*
Slaters	„	10*s.*	12*s.*	10*s.*
Carpenters	„	10*s.*	10*s.* to 12*s.*	10*s.*
Labourers	„	6*s.* 6*d.* to 7*s.*	6*s.* 6*d.* to 7*s.* 6*d.*	7*s.* to 8*s*
Painters and glaziers	„	9*s.*	9*s.* to 10*s.*	8*s.* to 9*s.*

Description of Labour.		1880.	1885.	1890.
11.—In Furniture, &c.				
Cabinetmakers	per week	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* to 3*l.* 15*s.*
Upholsterers	„	2*l.* 10*s.* to 4*l.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 4*l.*	2*l.* 5*s.* to 3*l.*
Polishers	„	2*l.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* to 3*l.*
Coopers	per day	10*s.*	10*s.*	9*s.* to 10*s.*
12.—In Dress.				
Tailors	per hour	10*d.* to 1*s.*	10*d.*	10*d.* to 1*s.*
„	per week	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.*
„ in factories	„	2*l.*	2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*
Mantlemakers	„	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 30*s.*	13*s.* to 30*s.*
Milliners—				
First class	„	3*l.* 10*s.*	3*l.* 10*s.*	3*l.* to 4*l.*
Second class	„	35*s.*	35*s.*	15*s.* to 2*l.* 5*s.*
Dressmakers	„	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 30*s.*	12*s.* to 25*s.*
Needlewomen	„	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 30*s.*	12*s.* to 25*s.*
Bootmakers	riveting children's boots, per pair	6*d.*	6*d.*	5*d.*
„	riveting boys' boots, per pair	10*d.*	10*d.*	9*d.*
„	riveting women's boots, per pair	1*s.*	1*s.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*	1*s.* to 1*s.* 3*d.*
„	riveting men's boots, per pair	1*s.* 3*d.*	1*s.* 3*d.*	1*s.* to 1*s.* 9*d.*
„	making wellingtons to order	10*s.*	10*s.*	10*s.*
„	making elastics to orders	7*s.* 6*d.*	7*s.* 6*d.*	6*s.* to 8*s.*
„ Machinists	per week	15*s.* to 30*s.*	15*s.* to 30*s.*	15*s.* to 25*s.*
Hatters—				
Bodymakers	per dozen	12*s.* to 20*s.*	12*s.* to 22*s.*	10*s.* to 22*s.*
Finishers	„	12*s.* to 24*s.*	12*s.* to 24*s.*	12*s.* to 24*s.*
Shapers	„	4*s.* to 12*s.*	4*s.* to 12*s.*	4*s.* to 12*s.*
Crown sewers	„	3*s.* 6*d.* to 5*s.*	3*s.* 6*d.* to 5*s.*	3*s.* 6*d.* to 5*s.*
Trimmers	„	6*s.*	6*s.*	6*s.* to 9*s.*
Clothing Factories—				
Tailoresses	per week	20*s.* to 35*s.*	12*s.* 6*d* to 35*s.*	20*s.* to 35*s.*
Pressers	„	2*l.* to 2*l.* 15*s.*	2*l.* to 2*l.* 15*s.*	2*l.* to 3*l.*
Shirtmakers	„	12*s.* to 20*s.*	12*s.* to 25*s.*	12*s.* to 25*s.*
Machinists	„	15*s.* to 30*s.*	20*s.* to 35*s.*	20*s.* to 35*s.*
Drapers' assistants, carpet salesmen	„	2*l.* 10*s.* to 4*l.*	2*l.* 5*s.* to 4*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 5*l.* 10*s.*
13.—In Food and Drink.				
Bakers—				
Foremen	per week	3*l.*	3*l.*	3*l.*
Second hands	„	2*l.* to 2*l.* 2*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*

Description of Labour.		1880.	1885.	1890.
13.—In Food and Drink—*cont.*				
Butchers—				
Shopmen	per week	35*s.* to 40*s.*	30*s.* to 40*s.*	30*s.* to 40*s.*
Slaughtermen	„	2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.*
Boys	per week, with board	12*s.* 6*d.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 20*s.*
Small-goods men	„	1*l.* 10*s.* to 2*l.*	1*l.* 10*s.* to 2*l.*	1*l.* 15*s.* to 2*l.* 5*s.*
Maltsters	per week	—	2*l.* 5*s.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* 2*s.* to 2*l.* 5*s.*
14.—In Animal Substances.				
Curriers	per week	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Tanners	„	38*s.* to 45*s.*	38*s.* to 45*s.*	38*s.* to 40*s.*
Beamsmen	„	2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*	38*s.* to 45*s.*
Shedsmen	„	2*l.* 2*s.* to 2*l.* 5*s.*	2*l.* 2*s.* to 2*l.* 5*s.*	38*s.* to 50*s.*
Fellmongers	„	1*l.* 16*s.* to 3*l.*	1*l.* 16*s.* to 3*l.*	1*l.* 16*s.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*
15.—In Stone, Clay, &c.				
Brickmakers	per 1,000	18*s.* to 20*s.*	18*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 18*s.*
Navvies	per day	6*s.* 6*d.*	6*s.* to 7*s.*	6*s.* 6*d.* to 8*s.* 6*d.*
Quarrymen	„	8*s.* to 12*s.*	8*s.* to 12*s.*	8*s.* 6*d.* to 12*s.* 6*d.*
Labourers	„	6*s.* to 7*s.*	6*s.* 6*d.* to 7*s.* 6*d.*	6*s.* to 8*s.*
Stonebreakers	per cubic yard	1*s.* 6*d.* to 3*s.* 6*d.*	1*s.* 6*d.* to 3*s.* 6*d.*	2*s.* to 4*s.*
16.—In Mines.				
General managers	per week	2*l.* 10*s.* to 12*l.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 12*l.*	—
Legal „	„	10*s.* to 5*l.*	10*s.* to 5*l.*	—
Mining „	„	2*l.* 5*s.* to 8*l.*	2*l.* 5*s.* to 7*l.*	—
Engineers	„	2*l.* to 6*l.*	2*l.* to 5*l.*	—
Engine-drivers	„	2*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	—
Pitmen	„	1*l.* 16*s.* to 4*l.*	2*l.* to 4*l.*	—
Blacksmiths	„	2*l.* to 4*l.*	1*l.* 15*s.* to 3*l.*	—
Carpenters	„	2*l.* 2*s.* to 4*l.*	2*l.* 2*s.* to 4*l.*	—
Foremen of shift	„	2*l.* 2*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* to 3*l.*	—
Miners	„	2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*	—
Surfacemen (labourers)	„	1*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*	1*l.* 10*s.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*	—
Boys	„	10*s.* to 2*l.*	15*s.* to 1*l.* 16*s.*	—
Chinese	„	10*s.* to 2*l.*	12*s.* to 36*s.*	—

Prices.

163. Prices in Melbourne were quoted as follows at the same three periods. In country districts the cost of groceries, tobacco, imported wines, coal, &c., is naturally somewhat higher, and that

of agricultural and grazing produce, firewood, &c. naturally somewhat lower, than in Melbourne :—

Prices in Melbourne, 1880, 1885, *and* 1890.

Articles.		1880.	1885.	1890.
AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE.				
Wheat	per bushel	3*s.* 4*d.* to 4*s.* 9*d.*	3*s.* 6*d.* to 4*s.* 2*d.*	3*s.* 6*d.* to 5*s.*
Barley	„	2*s.* to 6*s.*	2*s.* 6*d.* to 4*s.* 10*d.*	2*s.* 9*d.* to 5*s.* 10*d.*
Oats	„	1*s.* 10*d.* to 3*s.*	2*s.* 4*d.* to 3*s.* 5*d.*	2*s* 9*d.* to 4*s.* 6*d.*
Maize	„	2*s.* 3*d.* to 3*s.* 7*d.*	4*s.* to 5*s.* 2*d.*	3*s.* 6*d.* to 4*s.* 10*d*
Bran	„	9*d.* to 1*s.*	11*d.* to 1*s.* 3*d.*	7½*d.* to 1*s.* 4*d.*
Hay	per ton	2*l.* 10*s.* to 4*l.*	3*l.* to 7*l.*	3*l.* to 4*l.* 15*s.*
Flour, first quality	„	8*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* to 10*l.* 15*s.*	7*l.* 10*s.* to 9*l.* 10*s.*	10*l.* to 13*l.* 15*s.*
Bread	per 4 lb. loaf	5*d.* to 6*d.*	5*d.* to 6*d.*	4½*d.* to 6*d.*
GRAZING PRODUCE.				
Horses— Draught	each	14*l.* to 58*l.*	20*l.* to 60*l.*	10*l.* to 43*l.*
Saddle and harness	„	5*l.* to 50*l.*	8*l.* to 45*l.*	6*l.* 10*s.* to 13*l.*
Cattle— Fat	„	6*l.* to 9*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*	7*l.* to 16*l.*	4*l.* 10*s.* to 16*l.* 15*s.*
Milch cows	„	3*l.* to 10*l.* 10*s.*	5*l.* to 12*l.*	3*l.* to 15*l.*
Sheep, fat	„	5*s.* 6*d.* to 16*s.* 6*d.*	7*s.* 6*d.* to 19*s.*	6*s.* to 18*s.* 6*d.*
Lambs, fat	„	4*s.* to 9*s.* 6*d.*	5*s.* 6*d.* to 13*s.*	3*s.* 6*d.* to 14*s.* 6*d.*
Butchers' meat— Beef, retail	per lb.	2½*d.* to 6*d.*	4*d.* to 8*d.*	3½*d.* to 10*d.*
Mutton „	„	1½*d.* to 5*d.*	1½*d.* to 5*d.*	2*d.* to 5*d.*
Veal „	„	4*d.* to 6*d.*	5*d.* to 8*d.*	5*d.* to 9*d.*
Pork „	„	6*d.* to 8*d.*	7*d.* to 9*d.*	7*d.* to 9*d.*
Lamb „	per quarter	2*s.* to 3*s.* 6*d.*	2*s.* to 3*s.* 6*d.*	2*s.* to 3*s.* 6*d.*
DAIRY PRODUCE.				
Butter	per lb.	6*d.* to 1*s.* 8*d.*	10*d.* to 2*s.* 3*d.*	10*d.* to 2*s.* 10*d.*
Cheese	„	5*d.* to 10*d.*	5*d.* to 1*s.*	6*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*
Milk	per quart	4*d.* to 6*d.*	4*d.* to 6*d.*	5*d.*
FARM-YARD PRODUCE.				
Geese	per couple	6*s.* to 10*s.*	7*s.* to 15*s.*	4*s.* to 8*s.* 6*d.*
Ducks	„	5*s.* to 8*s.*	5*s.* to 9*s.*	3*s.* 6*d.* to 7*s.*
Fowls	„	4*s.* 6*d.* to 6*s.*	4*s.* to 8*s.*	3*s.* to 5*s.* 6*d.*
Rabbits	„	9*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*	6*d.* to 1*s.*	9*d.* to 1*s.* 4*d.*
Pigeons	„	1*s.* to 3*s.*	2*s.* 6*d.* to 3*s.* 6*d.*	1*s.* to 2*s.* 6*d.*
Turkeys	each	5*s.* to 12*s.* 6*d.*	7*s.* to 15*s.*	5*s.* to 15*s.*
Sucking pigs	„	10*s.* to 12*s.* 6*d.*	10*s.* to 14*s.*	8*s* to 15*s.*

Articles.		1880.	1885.	1890.
FARM-YARD PRODUCE—*cont.*				
Bacon	per lb.	8*d.* to 1*s.*	8*d.* to 1*s.*	8*d.* to 1*s.* 4*d.*
Ham		10*d.* to 1*s.* 2*d.*	10*d.* to 1*s.* 2*d.*	10*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*
Eggs	per doz.	1*s.* to 2*s.*	10*d.* to 2*s.* 6*d.*	10*d.* to 2*s.* 6*d.*
GARDEN PRODUCE.				
Potatoes—Wholesale	per ton	2*l.* 10*s.* to 6*l.*	2*l.* 5*s.* to 4*l.* 5*s.*	3*l.* 10*s.* to 8*l.*
Retail	per cwt.	4*s.* to 8*s.* 6*d.*	3*s.* to 5*s.*	3*s.* 6*d.* to 9*s.*
Onions, dried	„	5*s.* to 14*s.*	4*s.* to 8*s.*	4*s.* to 12*s.*
Carrots	per dozen bunches	6*d.* to 9*d.*	6*d.* to 9*d.*	6*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*
Turnips	„	3*d.* to 8*d.*	4*d.* to 1*s.*	9*d.* to 2*s.*
Radishes	„	3*d.* to 6*d.*	4*d.* o 6*d.*	4*d.* to 6*d.*
Cabbages	per doz.	3*d.* to 3*s.*	1*s.* to 6*s.*	1*s.* to 4*s.*
Cauliflowers	„	9*d.* to 4*s.*	2*s.* to 7*s.*	1*s.* to 5*s.*
Lettuces	„	3*d.* to 1*s.*	1*s.* to 2*s.*	6*d.* to 2*s.*
Green peas	per lb.	1*d.*	1*d.* to 3*d.*	1*d.* to 3*d.*
MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES.				
Tea	per lb.	8*d.* to 2*s.* 3½*d.*	1*s.* 6*d.* to 2*s.* 6*d.*	6*d.* to 2*s.*
Coffee	„	8*d.* to 1*s.*	1*s.* 3*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*	8*d.* to 1*s.* 3*d.*
Sugar	„	3*d.* to 5*d.*	3*d.* to 4*d.*	2*d.* to 3*d.*
Rice	„	3*d.* to 4*d.*	2½*d.* to 4*d.*	2½*d.* to 4*d.*
Tobacco	„	2*s.* 6*d.* to 5*s.*	3*s.* to 6*s.*	1*s.* 11*d.* to 5*s.*
Soap, Colonial	„	2*d.* to 3½*d.*	3*d.* to 4*d.*	2½*d.* to 4*d.*
Candles—Sperm	„	9*d.* to 1*s.*	9*d.* to 1*s.*	5*d.* to 1*s.*
Salt	„	1*d.*	1*d.*	1*d.*
Coals	per ton	28*s.* to 40*s.*	25*s.* to 36*s.*	26*s.* to 60*s.*
Firewood	„	9*s.* to 12*s.*	9*s.* 6*d.* to 12*s.* 6*d.*	9*s.* to 16*s.*
WINES, SPIRITS, &c.				
Ale	per doz.	8*s.* to 11*s.*	5*s.* to 12*s.*	8*s.* to 11*s.*
Porter	„	7*s.* to 10*s.* 6*d.*	5*s.* to 12*s.*	8*s.* to 10*s.* 6*d.*
Brandy	per gall.	21*s.* to 33*s.*	22*s.* 6*d.* to 35*s.*	22*s.* 6*d.* to 35*s.*
Rum	„	15*s.* to 18*s.*	15*s.* to 18*s.*	15*s.* to 18*s.*
Whisky	„	17*s.* 6*d.* to 27*s.* 6*d.*	18*s.* to 28*s.*	18*s.* to 28*s.*
Geneva	per case 15 bottles	60*s.* to 62*s.* 6*d.*	60*s.* to 62*s.* 6*d.*	60*s.* to 62*s.* 6*d.*
Port wine	per doz.	35*s.* to 70*s.*	33*s.* to 72*s.*	35*s.* to 80*s.*
Sherry	„	35*s.* to 70*s.*	35*s.* to 75*s.*	33*s.* to 80*s.*
Claret	„	30*s.* to 65*s.*	32*s.* 6*d.* to 70*s.*	18*s.* to 95*s.*
Champagne	„	75*s.* to 100*s.*	70*s.* to 105*s.*	33*s.* to 115*s.*
Colonial wine	„	12*s.* to 28*s.*	12*s.* to 30*s.*	12*s.* to 30*s.*

164. For complete information on many points which have been merely touched upon, and on others which are not even mentioned, in this digest, the reader is referred to the "Victorian Year Book,* 1890–91."

Victoria Year Book.

HENRY HEYLYN HAYTER.

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